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UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT OF CONFEDERATE MARINES

by Ralph W. Donnelly

In a war which has been studied constantly for over ninety years, it comes as something of a surprise to find that the Confederate States Marine Corps in the American Civil War has been virtually overlooked or ignored.

While a limited amount of manuscript material concerning the Corps still exists today, the fact remains that information concerning the uniforms and equipment of the Confederate Marine is quite sparse.¹ Such information as has been gleaned fails to give a positive or complete picture, but it is given here with the hope that it will at least furnish a starting point for some more assiduous investigator. Sooner or later identifiable items of uniforms or equipment will be discovered as a residue of a Corps of over 1,100 enlisted men and 57 officers.

The Confederate Marine was entitled to receive a rather complete set of clothing during his four year's enlistment. Of course, it is entirely true that he didn't receive all of the listed items, but the intentions of the Government were honorable.

According to the standard clothing receipt forms he was entitled to receive the following named items during his four year's "cruise:"

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Uniform cap | 2 Blankets |
| 3 Pompons | 2 Knapsacks |
| 2 Uniform coats | 8 Pair socks |
| 1 Pair epaulettes or counter straps | 3 Fatigue caps |
| 8 Pair linen overalls | 4 Fatigue jackets |
| 4 Pair woolen overalls | 6 Fatigue overalls |
| 16 Shirts | 5 Linen jackets |
| 2 Stocks | 8 Flannel shirts |
| 24 Pair brogans | 1 Great coat |

¹ Query by correspondent "L. A. W." [Lee A. Wallace, Jr.] in *MC&H*, III, 49; answer by Ralph W. Donnelly, *Ibid.*, III, 94; Lee A. Wallace, Jr., "Lieutenant Francis Hawkes Cameron, Confederate States Marine Corps," *Ibid.*, VI, 79.

As might be expected, some of these items (e.g., pompons, epaulettes, and stocks) do not seem to have been issued while others were issued in quantities beyond the normal expectations. It seems fair to assume that the quality of the goods produced and issued in the South was sufficiently below peace-time standards to upset any quartermaster's planned issue.

An undated receipt roll, apparently from the initial recruiting period of the Marine Corps, March-June 1861, furnishes certain interesting information concerning the initial issues made to the Corps. All men on this roll were listed as "privates," even those who were sergeants and corporals on 25 July 1861, indicating it was a recruit roll. With 115 men on this roll, every man received at least one flannel shirt and a blanket. All but one man received a tin cup, tin pan, and an iron spoon. There were 109 pairs of cottonade pantaloons issued to 89 men, and 36 were issued canteens. Some 72 pairs of shoes were issued to 68 men.²

On a roll dated 25 July 1861, presumably of Captain George Holmes' Company A, some 72 men received issued articles (including four sergeants, three corporals, and 65 privates). There were 60 flannel shirts and 40 blankets issued in addition to those received earlier. Apparently a uniform jacket had been prepared since each man was issued a jacket. An issue of *white* pants was made, some 82 being issued, each man receiving one and some men two pairs. In addition, 18 men

² Clothing Receipt Roll #1, undated, Capt. George Holmes, Wrapper #9, "Marines who served under Capt. Geo. Holmes," Item 426, Record Group 45, Naval Records Collection, National Archives. This source hereafter cited as *Item 426, R. G. 45*.

were issued *blue* pants, which makes us suspect the whites were issued for summer wear in hot climate while the blues were a dress proposition.³

An early mention of Marine uniforms is to be found in the papers of the C. S. S. *Sumter* where can be found the itemized bill paid G. Samson of New Orleans for uniforming the Marine Guard of that ship. Lieutenant Becket K. Howell, commanding the Marine Guard, signed for receiving and issuing the following items at the prices shown:

21 Undress uniforms for Marines • 9.70.....	\$203.70
3 Trimmings for Non-Commissioned Officers	1.50
20 Full dress suit[s] for Marines • 11.50.....	230.00
20 Cap[s] & Covers • 2.50.....	50.00
4 Gross Bell Buttons • 8.00.....	32.00
	\$517.20 ⁴

As early as 9 May 1861 attempts were being made by the Secretary of the Navy to procure articles of clothing for the Marines in Europe. On that day Mallory wrote James D. Bulloch to purchase 2000 pair of pants, 2000 jackets, 1000 overcoats and watch coats, 1000 pairs of shoes (brogans), 2000 flannel shirts, 2000 canton flannel drawers, 2000 pairs woolen socks, 1000 blankets, 1000 fatigue caps, and 1000 shirts, both linen and cotton. The letter referred Bulloch to extracts at the end for a description of marine clothing.⁵ All efforts to uncover the Bulloch papers today so these extracts could be inspected have been unsuccessful.⁶

In September 1861, Mallory again wrote to Bulloch suggesting that certain articles be shipped over from Europe for the Marine Corps. He now requested 800 overcoats (watch coats), 1000 waist belts of black leather, such as used in the British

service, with cartridge box, cap box, and bayonet scabbard attached by means of slides. Also requested were 1000 knapsacks, such as used in the British service, with straps to connect with the waist belt, 20 bugles with extra mouth pieces, and 20 swords for noncommissioned officers with shoulder belts.⁷

Little written or manuscript material has been found that helps clarify either the cut or the color of the Marine uniform. We do know that the Navy uniform as prescribed was gray, and there is one brief mention in Mallory's letters that "Marine cloth is gray."⁸ Photographs are equally scarce, and only a few have been located which are probably of Marine uniforms. The *Photographic History of the Civil War* contains a poor photograph of Lieutenant Becket K. Howell, C.S.M.C., taken while an officer of the C. S. S. *Alabama*. He appears to be wearing a knee-length, double-breasted, gray frock coat with a high, rolled collar. But in appearance it looks much the same as that worn by Navy officers pictured on the same page and presumably was photographed in the same studio at the same time.⁹

Another picture of Howell, a steel engraving, is to be found in Raphael Semmes' *Service Afloat*. The portrait shows nothing distinctive or unusual in uniform cut or design except for insignia. Although navy shoulder straps are worn, the rank insignia for the lieutenant is the army bar instead of the navy star.

A recently discovered photograph of Lieutenant Francis H. Cameron, C.S.M.C., shows him wearing what appears to be a double-breasted roll collar frock coat of the navy pattern. Rank is indicated by woven sleeve braid, army style, rather than the stripes and looped stripes of gold lace of the navy. The cloth, judging by its pictured sheen, appears to be silk broadcloth or possibly alpaca.¹⁰

³ Clothing Receipt Roll #4, 25 July 1861, Capt. George Holmes, Wrapper #9, Item 426, R. G. 45.

⁴ Papers relating to the C. S. S. *Sumter*, C.S.N. Miscellaneous Papers, Portfolio 10, Accession 438, Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress.

⁵ U. S. Navy Department, *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion*, Washington, 1884-1927, Series II, v. 2, 65. This set hereafter cited as *N.O.R.*

⁶ Efforts to locate the Bulloch Papers so these extracts could be consulted have been unavailing. After the U. S. Navy Department was finished with the documents they were returned to England on 9 January 1895. They have since disappeared from public knowledge although the Confederate Research Club of Portsmouth, England has made an extensive but unsuccessful search for them. (Letters from Secretary Patrick Courtney, C.R.C., to the writer, 22 February and 21 May 1955, and Rear Admiral John B. Heffernan, Director of Naval History, U.S.N., to the writer, 9 August 1955.

⁷ *N.O.R.*, II, v. 2, 95, 26 September 1861.

⁸ *Ibid.*, 372, 9 March 1863.

⁹ Francis Traveyan Miller, ed., *The Photographic History of the Civil War*, 10 vols, New York, 1912, VI, 301.

¹⁰ Lee A. Wallace, Jr., "Lieutenant Francis Hawkes Cameron, . . .," *op. cit.*, 79. Incidentally, Mr. Wallace is in error in stating that Cameron was formerly an officer of the U. S. Marine Corps. A letter exists from A. W. Venable to President Jefferson Davis written in August 1861 which states, "I also present the request of Francis H. Cameron lately in the coast survey & masters mate in the navy. He is a deserving young man of North Carolina and asks a commission in the marine service or on the land in the Confederate army." (Letter of A. W. Venable to President Jefferson Davis, received 22 August 1861, Personal Papers of 1st Sgt. Nathaniel E. Venable, Co. I, 23d Va. Inf., C.S.A. Carded Records, Record Group 109, War Department Collection of Con-



Becket K. Howell, 1st Lieutenant, C.S.M.C., reproduced from a steel engraving in Raphael Semmes' SERVICE AFLOAT.

Another newly discovered photograph is one of Lieutenant John L. Rapier, C.S.M.C., dated November 1864. This date places it immediately after Rapier's return to Mobile after escaping from prison in New Orleans where he had been taken following his capture at Fort Gaines on 8 August 1864. This photograph shows only his head and chest so that the length of the coat cannot be determined. Insignia of rank is not apparent on the collar, and the sleeves do not show sufficiently to determine any rank markings. The color of the coat is apparently gray and appears to be flannel. It is double-breasted with a stand-up collar and has a double row of buttons spaced about three inches apart vertically. The buttons appear to be covered with gray cloth.¹¹

federate Records, National Archives.) A larger print of this picture of Cameron is used to illustrate T. S. Dukeshire, "The Confederate Marine Corps," *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* (Holton, Kans.), v. 62, No. 7, Whole No. 1796 (14 April 1956), 222-225.

¹¹ Photograph in the writer's possession furnished through the courtesy of Mrs. E. M. (Adelaide Marston) Trigg, of Mobile, Ala., a granddaughter of Lt. Rapier.

Mr. Lee A. Wallace, Jr., who has turned up the photograph of Lt. Cameron, also refers to a watercolor of Lieutenant Henry M. Doak, C.S.M.C., pictured with woven sleeve braid to indicate rank in the same Army style as shown on the picture of Lieutenant Cameron. He remarks that he hesitates to use this picture as corroborating evidence because of the possibility that Doak might be pictured as an army officer of a Tennessee regiment.¹² This hesitation appears to be groundless for while Doak served in the 19th Tennessee Infantry, the service was as an enlisted man and not as an officer. He was serving as Regimental Sergeant-Major when discharged on 7 July 1862 to accept his commission as a Marine lieutenant.¹³

Another source on how Marine officers were uniformed has been the letters of Lieutenant Henry L. Graves who served on the Savannah station. Although no photograph of Graves in uniform has been located as yet, certain passages in his letters are more revealing than photographs could be. On one occasion he wrote, "I got me a coat and pair pants the other day, made out of a

¹² Lee A. Wallace, Jr., "Lieutenant Francis Hawkes Cameron, . . .," *op. cit.*, 79.

¹³ Personal Papers of H. M. Doak, Pvt. and Sergt. Maj., Co. E and Field & Staff, 19th Tenn. Inf., C.S.A. Carded Records, R.G. 109, National Archives.



Photograph of 2nd Lieutenant John Lawrence Rapier, C.S.M.C., furnished through the courtesy of his granddaughter, Mrs. E. M. Craig of Mobile, Alabama.



Carte de Visit portrait of Lieutenant Francis Hawkes Cameron, reproduced earlier in MC&H (VI, 76).

sort of blue flannel, which is light and will do for the weather for a while yet.”¹⁴ On 29 April 1864 he wrote that “. . . there is no cloth on this station [Savannah]. That from which I obtained my suit was issued by the Marine Department at Richmond.”¹⁵ Several days later he was writing for some light material, such as jeans, for a summer coat.¹⁶

At the approach of winter Graves sent home patterns for a duty coat and pants along with eighteen buttons for his overcoat. The overcoat he requested cut the same as a certain sack-looking, raglan style coat of his father's, only longer. The cape was to be cut so as to meet in front,

¹⁴ Lt. Henry L. Graves to “My Dear Mother,” 22 April 1864 (?), Graves’ letters in the possession of Mr. Richard B. Harwell, of Richmond, Va., and quoted from herein with his permission. The original letters are at the University of North Carolina.

¹⁵ Graves to “My Dear Sister,” 29 April 1864, Graves’ Letters.

¹⁶ Graves to “My Dear Mother,” 29 April 1864, Graves’ Letters.

under the throat, to be held up by buttons under the collar of the coat. Six button and eyelet holes at regular intervals were to run down the front of the cape making it so it could be buttoned up and worn at times by itself. He remarked that he had the cape buttons and requested that if enough cloth were available that a sack coat and a pair of pants be made also.¹⁷

Shortly after reporting to the Savannah station Graves had his gray cloth cap stolen which he wrote he had replaced with an inexpensive gray cloth cap of a common type.¹⁸

Now for a look at the enlisted man. A brief notation in “Police Matters” in a Richmond paper in May 1862 gives a hint concerning Marines’ headgear. As a result of an altercation between a soldier and a Marine, it developed that upon searching the captured soldier the city watchman (police officer) found a Marine’s *blue cloth cap* in his bosom.¹⁹ Assuming that a Marine of February 1863 would be wearing a regulation uniform, a possible description can be found in a deserter’s notice published in the Mobile, Alabama *Advertiser and Register* which states that “When this man ran off he was dressed in a *grey coat and black pants*.”²⁰ Later in the year the Savannah, Georgia *Republican* carried another deserter’s advertisement which gives a slightly different version of an enlisted man’s uniform: “Corp’l McDaniels, C. S. M. Corps aged 24 years, black eyes, 5 feet 7 inches high, black moustache, no beard, dressed in *grey coat trimmed with black and blue pants*.”²¹

If enlisted men wore grey coats and blue (or black) pants, it might well be that under certain circumstances the officers of the Corps wore the same color combination in reverse. This speculation is based on a letter from Lieutenant Thomas St. George Pratt, C.S.M.C., on duty at the Marine Barracks in Savannah in April 1864, to a personal friend. In this letter he said, in part, “Could you not draw a pair of Grey pants & a dark jacket & let me have them[?]”²²

¹⁷ Graves to “My Dear Mother,” 3 November 1864 (?), Graves’ Letters.

¹⁸ Graves to “My Dear Mother,” 5 February 1863, Graves’ Letters.

¹⁹ Richmond *Daily Examiner*, 26 May 1862, p. 2, col. 2.

²⁰ Mobile *Advertiser and Register*, 24 January 1863, p. 2, col. 3.

²¹ Savannah *Republican*, 2 June 1863, p. 4, col. 1.

²² Letter of Lt. Thomas St. George Pratt to “Dear Ruck,” 24 April 1864, Personal Papers of Lt. Thomas St. G. Pratt, C.S.M.C., C.S.N. and C.S.M.C. Carded Records, Item 1795, Record Group 109, National Archives.

In time Marine articles of clothing apparently became especially desirable for civilian use as it became necessary to warn against their unauthorized use. On 7 December 1863 the following general notice was issued by the Corps Quartermaster, Major Algernon S. Taylor:

Notice is hereby given that Marine Clothing, found in the possession of any person not of the Corps, will be seized and such person, if belonging to any military organization, will be reported to his commanding officer for infraction of regulation, and if a citizen, he will be prosecuted for violation of the law. Marine clothing is readily known by its material and style.²³

Too bad we have not yet discovered this particular material and style!

On a clothing receipt roll dated June 1864 for Marines on the Wilmington, N. C. station is a reference to "Eagles and rings." While not explained, the presumption is that this is a reference to uniform cap insignia.

The possibility of the use of white clothing on the Mobile station and other stations in the Deep South should not be overlooked. This is suggested by records showing that female laundresses were employed for the Marine Barracks in Mobile. They were even authorized to draw rations.²⁴ The Marines paid for their services, and the Paymaster was instructed on occasion to pay the laundresses the amounts due before settling and transferring pay accounts of transferred men.²⁵

During the second quarter of 1864, uniform cloth became available for the Navy and Marine officers on the Mobile station. Some six Marine officers (Captains Meiere, Thom, and Van Benthuysen, and Lieutenants Fendall, Sayre, and Rapier) each received ten yards of gray flannel uniform cloth for complete suits. Each was charged at the rate of \$3.56 a yard. This grey flannel was apparently the same as that sold to Navy officers as no distinction was made between Navy and Marine officers on the list of officers allocated

²³ Savannah Republican, 7 January 1864, p. 1, col. 1; Mobile Daily Advertiser and Register, 1 January 1864, p. 1, col. 3.

²⁴ Letter from Adm. Franklin Buchanan, C.S.N., to Paymaster Thomas R. Ware, C.S.N., Naval Commandant's Office, Mobile, Ala., 1 January 1863, Papers of Paymaster Thomas R. Ware, C.S.N., 1st Qr., 1863, on deposit at the Fredericksburg and Spottsylvania National Military Park Museum, Fredericksburg, Va. This collection hereinafter cited as *Ware Papers*.

²⁵ Letter of Capt. J. Ernest Meiere, C.S.M.C., to Adm. Franklin Buchanan, C.S.N., Marine Barracks, Mobile, Ala., 22 July 1863; Capt. Meiere to Paymaster Ware, Marine Barracks, Mobile, Ala., 18 September 1863, *Ware Papers*, 3d Qr., 1863.

cloth from the available bolts, officers from both services receiving cloth from the same bolt.²⁶ The uniform worn by Lieutenant Rapier mentioned previously in the picture dated November 1864, might well be the one made up from this gray flannel uniform cloth. In this case both the coat and the pantaloons would have been gray.

About the time these uniforms were made up Admiral Franklin Buchanan issued an order that "... in consequence of the hot weather from June 1 to October 1, officers attached to the Mobile Squadron may wear their gray flannel frock or sack coats with navy buttons, gray pantaloons, and vests."²⁷ Captain Meiere and Lieutenants Fendall and Rapier were then on Marine duty on the Mobile station, but Captain Thom and Lieutenant (Major) Sayre were serving with the Army. Captain Van Benthuysen's presence in Mobile at this time is unaccounted for, but he was serving with the Marine Corps.

During the third quarter of 1864 Naval Storekeeper D. R. Lindsay at Mobile received blue flannel, black alpaca, white flannel, and grey cloth for the making of clothing, but the invoice does not specify whether the cloth was for officers or enlisted men, or for Navy or Marine personnel. Perhaps it was for both.²⁸

In November Mr. Lindsay received 324 grey flannel shirts which he distributed among the vessels of the Mobile Squadron, Battery Buchanan, and the "Barracks." This last, which could only have been the Marine Barracks as the term was never used in reference to sailors' quarters, received some 36 of these shirts.²⁹

We still have in existence today a considerable number of clothing receipt rolls for the years 1863 and 1864 for several of the Marine companies as well as scattered rolls for other years. A compilation of the items issued to the men of Company C,

²⁶ Letter of Major C. L. Sayre, P.A.C.S., to Adm. Franklin Buchanan, C.S.N., Mobile, Ala., 17 May 1864 in "Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1861-1864;" Memo of Clothing Issued to Officers in "Papers for 2d Qr., 1864;" letter of 1st Lt. J. R. Y. Fendall, C.S.M.C., to Naval Storekeeper D. R. Lindsay, C.S.N., Marine Barracks, Mobile, Ala., 25 April 1864 in "Papers for 2d Qr., 1864;" extract from Memo of Sale of Clothing to Officers of the C. S. Navy by P. M. Ware, 2d Qr., 1864, in "Invoices '62-'64, Mobile Station," all in the *Ware Papers*.

²⁷ N.O.R., I, v. 21, 899; G.O. 23, 1 June 1864.

²⁸ Clothing Invoice dated September 30, 1864 in "Accounts for 3d Qr., 1864," *Ware Papers*.

²⁹ Letter of Naval Storekeeper D. R. Lindsay, C.S.N., to Paymaster Ware, C.S.N., 26 November 1864, "Correspondence, October 1864-January 1864, *Ware Papers*.

for instance, during the period of January 1863 through September 1864 is revealing as to the items and the quantity issued over this twenty-one month period. Of the basic uniform there were 178 caps, 129 coats, and 227 pairs of trousers or pants issued as well as 38 greatcoats or overcoats. Possibly uniform items, although not so specified, were 16 tunics and 42 blouses. In the line of general clothing 277 pairs of brogans or infantry bootees, 297 pairs of under drawers (cotton, woolen, and unspecified), 302 shirts (flannel, cotton, and unspecified), 121 pairs of stockings (and 29 pairs of woolen sox in the winter) were issued. The only equipment issued was 101 blankets.³⁰ The enlisted strength of Company C at this time was approximately 100 enlisted men so that the amount of clothing issued was a respectable *quantity* whatever the *quality* might have been.

The list value of various uniform items as late as 1864 is of more than passing interest and compares favorably with civilian prices for comparable items. The records show a transfer from the Corps Quartermaster to Captain John D. Simms at Camp Beall, Drewry's Bluff, Virginia, of these articles:

90 cotton shirts @ \$2.75
45 uniform caps @ 2.60
45 fatigue blouses @ 8.00
10 prs. uniform pants @ 8.00
15 prs. shoes @ 10.00³¹
20 prs. shoes @ 10.00
6 tunics @ 8.00
4 uniform caps @ 2.60
4 uniform coats @ 20.00
4 blankets @ 6.90
10 pr. cotton pants @ 12.00³²

The first Marine units appear to have been armed by Army ordnance officers rather than by Navy sources. Captain George Holmes' Company A received an allotment at the Warrington (Pensacola, Fla.) Navy Yard on 8 July 1861 from Captain H. Oladowski (Bragg's Chief of Ordnance) consisting of:

32 muskets	32 nipples
30 screw drivers	32 cartridge boxes
32 wipers	32 bayonet scabbards
3 spring vices	32 waist belts
3 ball screws	64 gunslings ³³

³⁰ Clothing Receipt Rolls, Co. C, Capt. R. T. Thom, Wrapper #3, Item 426, R.G. 45.

³¹ Clothing Invoice dated 25 January 1864 in Personal Papers of Major & Q.M. Algernon S. Taylor, C.S.M.C. Carded Records, R.G. 109, National Archives.

³² *Loc. cit.*, invoice dated 25 July 1864.

³³ Receipt for Ordnance Stores received from Capt. H. Ola-

In the winter of 1861, after some of the arms issued to Marine companies had been returned to the Army ordnance officers, General Bragg issued a General Order which was extremely critical of the Marines' care of their arms, citing "a gross and unpardonable neglect by officers and men" which resulted in many being "seriously damaged, some entirely ruined." The order characterized the improper care of guns as a disservice to the country and promised to disarm any company which might in the future abuse their weapons and "turn over their guns to better men."³⁴

A recruiting advertisement for the Mobile station in February 1863 gives our sole exact identification of the arms issued Marines, and even this might be correct at this time and for this station only. Along with uniforms, good rations, medical attention, and prize money, Marine recruits were promised "Enfield Rifles, with Sword Bayonets."³⁵ The English-made Enfield rifle musket was considered by the Confederates a very effective weapon³⁶ and therefore the more "elite" Enfield rifle must have been a special inducement.

Even as late as 1864 rather complete equipment seems to have been issued to the enlisted Marines. Records of the Quartermaster, Major Taylor, show these items of equipment to have been commonly issued in the Richmond, Va. area:

Waist belts
Bayonet scabbards (for Enfield rifle bayonets)
Cap pouches
Cartridge boxes
Canteens and straps
Haversacks
Sword bayonet frogs³⁷

On another occasion some fourteen percussion muskets, bayonets, and scabbards, along with other basic equipment, such as waist belts, cartridge boxes, cap boxes, haversacks, and canteens

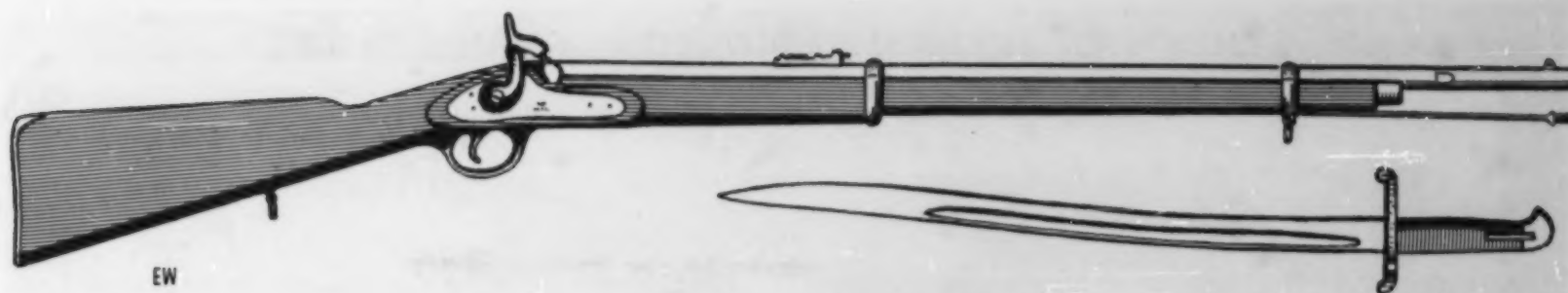
dowski, 8 July 1861 in Personal Papers of Capt. George Holmes, C.S.M.C., C.S.N. and C.S.M.C. Carded Records, Item 1795, R.G. 109, National Archives.

³⁴ G.O. 133, 1 December 1861, Army of Pensacola (Bragg), Item 265, R.G. 109, National Archives.

³⁵ *Mobile Register and Advertiser*, 3 February 1863, p. 1, col. 3, and numerous other editions.

³⁶ Bell I. Wiley, *The Life of Johnny Reb*, Indianapolis, 1943, 291, quoting Richard D. Steuart, "How Johnny Got His Gun," *Confederate Veteran*, XXXII (1924), 168.

³⁷ Invoice of Ordnance Stores turned over to Capt. T. S. Wilson, C.S.M.C., 28 March 1864 in Personal Papers of Major & Q. M. Algernon S. Taylor, C.S.A. Carded Records, R.G. 109, National Archives.



English Enfield Rifle and Bayonet. Cal. .577.

and straps, were issued by the Quartermaster.³⁸

The Marine Guard of the C. S. Str. *Morgan* stationed at Mobile was inventoried by Lieutenant John L. Rapier, its new commanding officer, on 1 December 1864. This inventory gives a word picture of the standard equipment of a Marine at this time. The fifteen men present each had at least one uniform cap, coat, pair of pants, two or three overshirts, one or two pairs of underdrawers, and a pair of shoes. Some, but not all, had overcoats, fatigue coats, and blankets. In the line of arms and accoutrements each man had a musket, a cartridge box, a cap box, a belt, a bayonet scabbard, a knapsack (except one man), a canteen, and a haversack. Not issued and in demand were socks and undershirts while blankets and overcoats were not generally available.³⁹ It was two months later when each was issued two pairs of socks, two pairs of underdrawers, and two undershirts.⁴⁰

Some insight into the general picture can be obtained from the remarks of the Mustering Officer on the various muster rolls. The roll for Company A, dated 31 August 1864, carries the notation that the company's arms were "Fair" as to condition, as were the accoutrements (belts and knapsacks) although the majority of the men were without canteens and haversacks. Both the arms and accoutrements for Companies B and C for the same mustering were rated "Fair." On 31 October 1864 the arms and accoutrements of Company C were described as "Indifferent." The last

day of December 1864 brought another mustering of Company C, and its arms were described as "In good condition, but old Pattern" while the accoutrements were described as "Fair." These companies were based at Camp Beall, Drewry's Bluff, at this time. In Savannah the arms carried by Captain John R. F. Tattnell's Company E were described on 1 November 1864 as "Not good, but in good firing condition." Accoutrements were considered as "Good and in good order." But no details as to the nature of the accoutrements or a description of the make, model, or calibre of the arms are given.⁴¹

Although the number of arms carried by the Marines from the James River Squadron serving in Semmes' Naval Brigade are not listed separately, the report of the small-arms turned over to Federal authorities on 30 April 1865 shows that only one type was carried by the Naval Brigade which consisted of both sailors and Marines. The report shows that sixty .58 calibre pieces were finally surrendered.⁴²

In summary, the Confederate Marine seems to have had several approved uniforms, one for winter or dress, a fatigue uniform, and a summer or hot weather uniform. There seems to have been two pieces of headgear, a dress or uniform cap and a fatigue cap. It is probable that the officers used the Army system of designating rank on their uniforms. The arms varied according to the time and the station or assignment, both the .577 Enfield rifle and the .58 rifle having been used. Much of this is still nebulous, but in time, perhaps, it will be possible to complete the picture of the uniforms, arms, and equipment of the Confederate Marine.

³⁸ *Loc. cit.*, Invoice of Ordnance Stores turned over to Capt. J. D. Simms, C.S.M.C., 18 June 1864.

³⁹ List of Clothing and Accoutrements of the Marine Guard of C. S. Str. *Morgan*, 1 December 1864; copy of an original in the papers of Lt. John L. Rapier, C.S.M.C., in the possession of his granddaughter, Mrs. E. M. Trigg of Mobile, Ala.

⁴⁰ List of Clothing Issued to Marine Guard of C. S. Str. *Morgan*, Mobile, 28 January 1865; copy of an original in the papers of Lt. John L. Rapier, C.S.M.C., in the possession of his granddaughter, Mrs. E. M. Trigg of Mobile, Ala.

⁴¹ Wrappers #9 (Co. A), #2 (Co. B), #3 (Co. C), and #7 (Co. E), Item 426, R.G. 45.

⁴² U. S. War Department, *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, Washington, 1881-1901, 128 vols., Series I, v. 47, pt. 3, 856.

STAMPS OF FRENCH REGIMENTS, WORLD WAR I

by Fairfax Downey



Certain members of the American Expeditionary Force of World War I who were on liaison duty with French troops or billeted with French families, will remember the war stamps soldiers of our ally stuck on the back of their letters. But those vivid little imprints were generally unknown and are now largely forgotten. They represented most of France's infantry regiments from the 1st through the 412th, along with Colonial regiments, the highest numbered being the 295th. Paraded on those bits of paper are artillery, the escadrilles of the air force, engineers, medics and first aid dogs, marines, cyclists, chaplains, interpreters, and the gendarm-erie. Cavalry emerges from the Napoleonic past: cuirassiers, dragoons, hussars, chasseurs a cheval and d'Afrique, and spahis. Stamps were issued for battleships. Two British regiments that served often with the French were honored—the Lancashire Yeomanry and the Queen's Own.

The stamps, not for postage, are similar to the Red Cross and wild life stickers familiar to us. They were of course designed to promote esprit de corps and morale. Some carry battle honors like that of the 53rd Infantry: Barcelona, 1697; Solferino, 1859; La Marne, 1914. As pictorial history and sources for details of uniforms the stamps are of permanent interest and value.

An official collection of the stamps was made, probably early in 1918, when more than 500 were

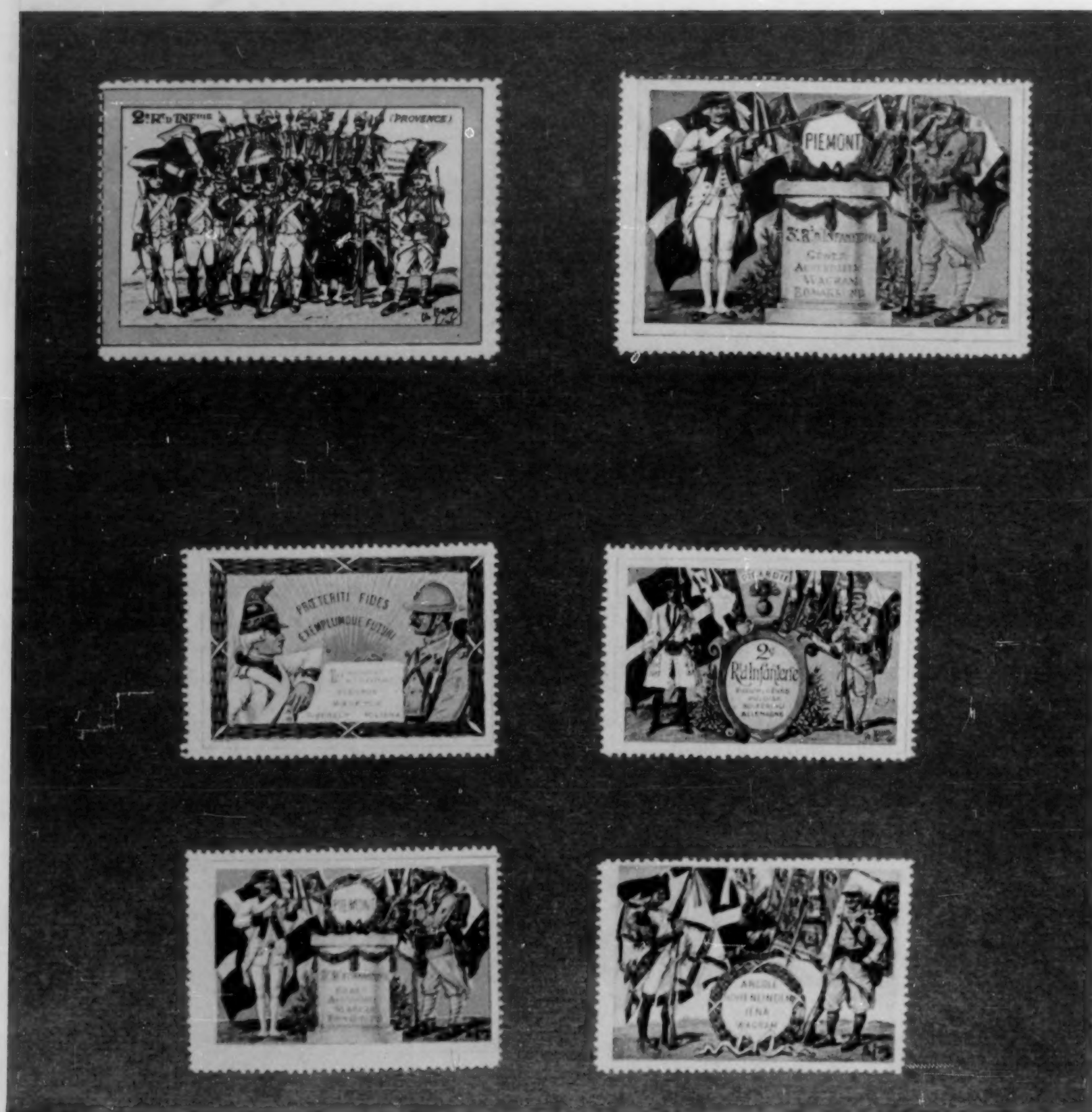
The present album of stamps of the French Army was composed at the desire of His Majesty, the Emperor of Russia, who wished it to serve as a signal mark of his sympathetic interest in the army of a friendly and allied nation. In the Sovereign's mind this album was intended for the Tsarevitch in order to acquaint him with the uniforms, the traditions, and the military glory of France and to develop in him a love of our country. Unhappily the Russian Revolution, occurring at the moment the book was about to be sent, dissipated the imperial hopes, and this album becomes no more than a curious historical document.

mounted in a handsome album, bound in leather of the French national colors and inscribed in gilt with the arms of Russia. Pasted on a forepage is a small sheet in handwritten French relating the album's origin. Translated it reads:

After the little Tsarevitch and his family were



A sheet of uncut stamps reproduced from the album in the possession of the Dartmouth College Library.



A partial page from the French regimental stamp album located at Dartmouth College Library.

executed by the Bolsheviks, the album turned up in a French bookstore where it was bought for \$150 by Colonel Marston E. Drake, New York dealer in rare books. Subsequently the Colonel gave the album to his son, Captain Raynolds Drake, USAF, who in 1956 presented it to the Dartmouth College Library. Selections of the

stamps are here reproduced by courtesy of the Library.

As Colonel Drake suggests, stamps such as these, designed for American divisions and regiments, would be an excellent device for promoting pride in units, as they proved to be for the gallant French army of 1914-18.

THE PLATES

PIONEERS, 25TH U.S. INFANTRY, SUMMER 1814

(Plate No. 129)

The 25th Infantry of 1812-1815 was a temporary regiment raised in Connecticut for five years of the war. Its first colonel was Edmund Pendleton Gaines, later brevetted major general for gallantry. The early summer of 1814 found the Twenty-fifth on the Niagara frontier as part of the brigade commanded by Brigadier General Winfield Scott.

In April Scott wrote to the Commissary General of Purchases, in Philadelphia, that his brigade was nearly destitute of clothing. The Commissary General, in response, sent 2000 suits of Infantry clothing to Buffalo which arrived on 27 June.¹ Instead of regulation blue coatees the shipment carried roundabout jackets or "jackets with sleeves" of gray kersey.² With these jackets Scott's men wore the new leather cap approved for the Army in 1813 and at least the 25th Infantry had the new smaller cap plates. Men and officers wore natural colored linen overalls cut as pantaloons.³ In these clothes the regiment fought that summer at Fort Erie, Chippewa, and Lundy's Lane.

With the Twenty-fifth in this campaign marched its detachment of pioneers, an innovation for the Regular Army regiments of this time.

Scott's introduction of pioneers into the regimental organization was recognized in the new Infantry Regulations issued the next year.⁴ These regulations, formulated by a board of officers

under Scott's direction, were an adaptation of the current French Army regulations.

Scott was perfectly familiar with the pioneers of the British infantry and the *sapeurs* of the French. So when he issued his orders for his own he specified their accouterments in some detail. The order is worth quoting in full:⁵

General Orders Head Qrs. Niagara Frontier
Buffalo. 29th May 1814

Commanding Officers of Infantry Regiments in both Brigades will cause immediately to be designated in each Company under them an active, robust, intrepid private soldier to be known & respected in future as a pioneer in such Company. The privates thus designated are to be known and mustered on the Muster Rolls of the Company as heretofore. Commanding Officers will also select from the Corporals of the Regiment one in each to be known as Corporal of Pioneers. Such Corporal to have the immediate Command of the pioneers of the Regiment whenever they may be detached.

Pioneers are to be exempted from all ordinary duties and details unless it be by special order of the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, on some pressing emergency. They are to be furnished on the proper requisition with the proper tools and assortment, which tools are to be handsomely cased in Leather and worn & slung over the shoulder. The whole, including the Corporal, are to be supplied with a linen apron suspended from the neck & to reach below the knees. The Corporals each to carry one handsaw and one felling ax. The first pioneer of each Regiment, the same. 2nd, 3rd & 4th pioneers, a felling ax and spade each. The 5th & 6th pioneers, a spade and pick ax each. 7th, 8th, 9th & 10th pioneers, should there be as many Companies present with the Regiment, the necessary tools in due proportion, the whole carried and slung as selected.

Corporals and their pioneers to attend Roll Calls, drills, parades, when not detached, and they will be posted and to follow the Corps as the Commanding Officer may designate. The private pioneers each be near the Center of his proper Company in the rank of file closers as supernumerary.

By Command W. Scott, B. Genl., Comd.
G. D. Smith
Brigade Major

It should not be imagined from reading this order that pioneers were new to the United States Army. They are encountered in records of the Revolution and later. But this is one of the earliest accounts of how they were outfitted.

Frederick P. Todd

¹ Letters of Callender Irvine to Winfield Scott, 13 May 1814, and Irvine to Sect. War, 28 May and 14 July 1814, in National Archives, War Records Division, Record Group 92.

² Letters of Irvine to Scott, 10 January 1815, and Irvine to Sect. War, 21 January 1814, National Archives, RG 92.

³ *Journal of the American Military Institute*, III (1939), 197-199; IV (1940), 125-126. Member Detmar Finke informs me that the new cap plate was approved 18 January 1814 and issued that spring to the regiment.

⁴ War Dept., *Rules and Regulations for the Field Exercise and Maneuvers of Infantry*, New York, 1815, 3.

⁵ This order is taken from an Orderly Book of the 25th Infantry and was kindly made available to me by Mr. Chester O. Hyde of Queen's Village, N. Y. Spelling and punctuation have been changed slightly.

U. S. MARINE CORPS, 1826

(Plate No. 130)

Between 1820 and 1834, the uniform regulations of the Marine Corps underwent a series of modifications. There were numerous reasons behind these changes: a desire for a more serviceable uniform; a need to relieve junior officers of an excessive financial burden stemming from the high cost of the uniform prescribed in 1804; and, of course, the natural evolution in the styles of the time.

Plate 130 shows three varieties of uniform worn by Marine Officers in the early months of 1826. On 30 January of this year the now-traditional mameluke sword was officially prescribed for all commissioned officers of the Corps, effective no later than 1 May 1826.¹ This same order directed that "from and after 30th April next, or sooner if practicable, the officers . . . wear sword belts and plates, such as are prescribed for the Artillery officers in Article 65, No. 856 in the General Rules and Regulations for the Army of the United States, revised by Major General Scott."

The field officer wears white linen cossack pantaloons over half boots with spurs and the coat prescribed for his rank, lapels open as worn in summer.² Basically, this was the same coat, blue with red collar and cuffs, authorized in 1804.³ The order of 30 January 1826 that prescribed the mameluke sword had directed:

... that the Captains, Field & Staff Officers . . . shall . . . when in Full Dress Uniform wear a Cocked Hat (not a chapeaux [sic] de bras) twenty inches in length, with a very little curve, height in rear eleven inches, height in front nine inches, loop of gold lace one inch & three quarters in width over a cockade of rich black ribbon four inches in width; tassels of gold & red bullion, fastened inside the corner of the hat, and not to hang below the corner. Hat not bound.⁴

The choice of tight pantaloons with staff boots to the knee was optional for field officers and in all likelihood these were worn only at full dress functions.⁵

The staff officer wears the summer undress uniform prescribed as of 1 January 1822. Introduced

as a practical means of alleviating wear and tear on the dress uniform, the undress is described in a printed order of 25 August 1821 signed by Secretary of the Navy Smith Thompson:

Navy blue cloth coat single breasted, with Marine buttons, buttonholes worked with blue twist in the herring-bone form. Standing coliar of scarlet cloth with two buttonholes on each side, worked with blue twist; the collar full laced, cuffs and skirts turned up with blue cloth . . . each buttonhole worked in the herring-bone form; buttons placed lengthwise on the skirts and sleeves, the upper part of the buttonholes in all instances forming a diamond; the skirts of the coat to reach as low as the bend of the knee, and two gold lace diamonds placed on the points of the skirts.

First Lieutenants when in undress shall wear one gold epaulet on the right shoulder.

Second Lieutenants when in undress to wear one gold epaulet on the left shoulder.

A first Lieutenant in the staff, when in undress, shall wear a gold epaulet on the right shoulder, and counter-strap on the left, embroidered with gold on blue ground.

A second Lieutenant in the staff, when in undress, shall wear a gold epaulet on the left shoulder, and a counter-strap on the right, embroidered with gold on blue ground.

A scarlet sash, a black leather waist belt, with yellow mountings, and a brass scabbard sword, with blue pantaloons in winter and white in summer must be worn by all officers when on duty in undress.

Officers' grades, as respects buttons, shall be as follows, viz.:

The Lieutenant Colonel Commandant shall wear on the breast of the undress coat, ten Marine buttons, on the cuffs and skirts four.

The Captains shall wear on the breast of the undress coat, nine Marine buttons, on the cuffs and skirts four.

The first and second Lieutenants shall wear on the breast of the undress coat, nine Marine buttons, on the cuffs and skirts three.⁶

The staff officer is illustrated wearing a modification of the full dress chapeau described in earlier uniform orders, but differing in that it omitted the gold loop and scarlet plume and had a black ribbon cockade. This hat is shown in a contemporary painting of Brevet Lieutenant Colonel John M. Gamble, USMC, and would appear to have been more practical for normal wear.⁷

The subaltern in full dress wears a single breasted coatee, wings and blue cossac pantaloons as prescribed for the "Winter Establishment." This uniform is described in a formal order dated 22 March 1821:

¹ CMC Order Books, National Archives.

² Order of May 1821 signed by Parke G. Howle, A&I Misc Ltrs, Vol III, Ltr No. 44, National Archives:

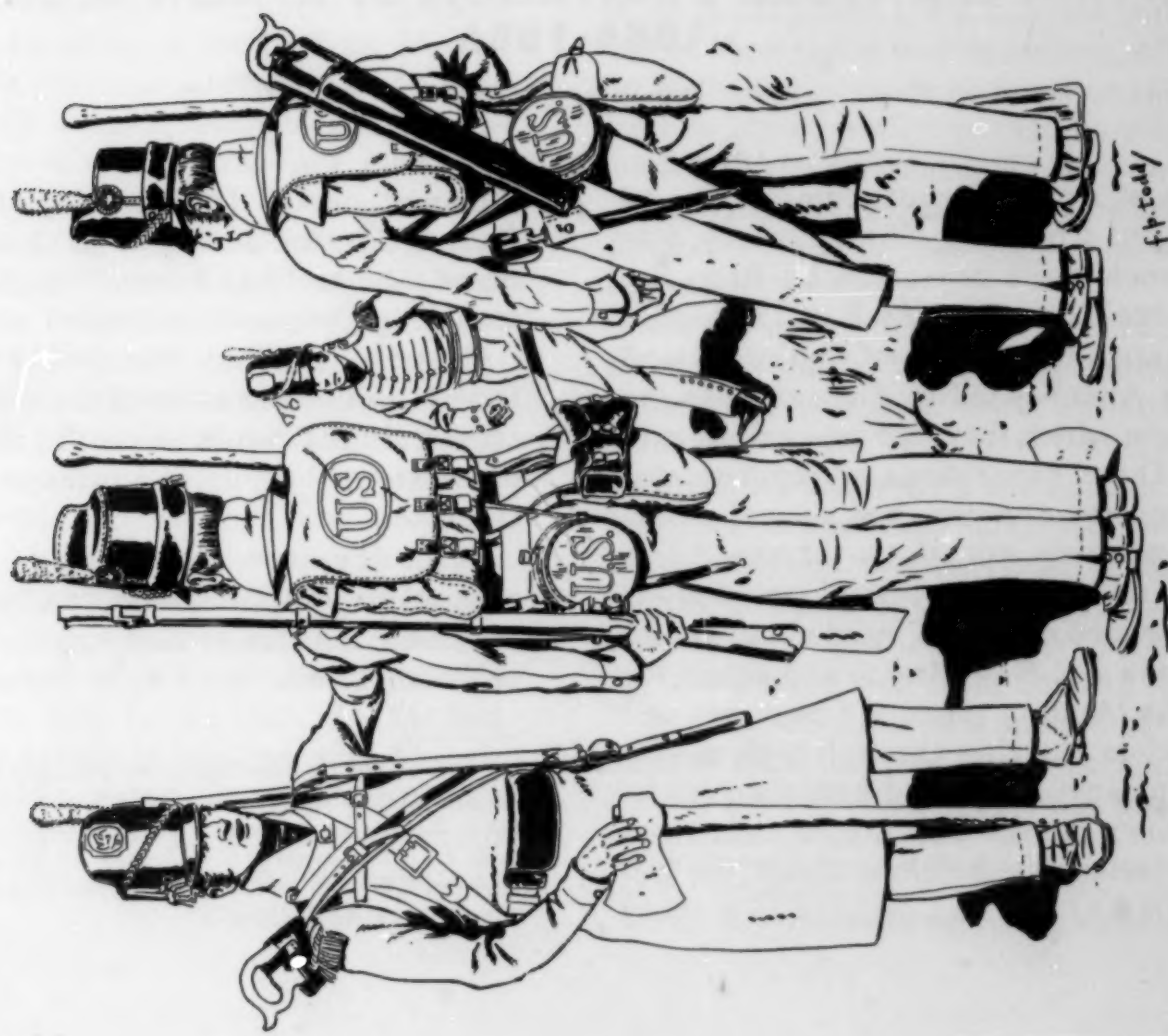
³ See Plate No. 24, *MC&H*, II, 25-28.

⁴ CMC Order Books, National Archives.

⁵ See order of May 1821 and Anthony DeRose portrait of LtCol John Marshall Gamble, USMC.

⁶ Officers of the MC Ltr Book, II, 29, National Archives.

⁷ DeRose painting, *op. cit.*



Pioneers, 25th U. S. Infantry, Summer Dress 1814



Field Officer
Summer Full Dress

Second Lieutenant, Staff
Summer Undress

Second Lieutenant
Winter Full Dress

U. S. Marine Corps, 1826

The Lieutenants to wear blue cloth Coatees, single breasted with one row of buttons, eight in number, (such as the Honourable Secretary of the Navy has prescribed for the Officers of the Corps) on the breast, the button holes Gold laced and brought to a point . . . forming a diamond at the upper ends; button holes to be worked as far as the diamonds; three buttons on the Cuffs, Skirts Laced & worked as above. The buttons on the Cuffs or Sleeves, to be placed in a Straight line from the waist, to the bend of the arm; the Diamond to be placed upwards. The buttons on the Skirts to be placed in a direct line lengthwise, the Skirts laced and worked as before mentioned. The collar of scarlet Cloth, two Buttons on each side laced . . . and bound round with Gold lace. The cuffs of scarlet cloth, the upper part forming a half diamond, the point running to the wrist. The skirts turned up with scarlet Cloth. A diamond formed of Gold lace on blue cloth to be put on the skirts where the scarlet cloth meets; the skirts laced and worked similar to the cuffs.

In winter Blue cloth or Casimere Cossac plantaloons over Boots. In summer Pantaloon white & plain, either of cotton or linen, made and worn as above.⁸

Considerable confusion existed at the time over interpretation of the details of this new dress.⁹ Contemporary portraits illustrate varying collars and wings, so it is probable that minor discrepan-

cies were common between one officer's turn out and another's. This uniform was designed to bring the junior officers' dress more into line with that of the troops; whether or not it eased the burden on their pocket books is problematical.¹⁰

The leather shako with red pompom and gilded accessories, decreed in an order of 27 November 1823, was worn only by the subalterns and enlisted Marines.¹¹

It should be remembered that for a period of nearly twelve years following the War of 1812 only one uniform was specified in regulations—the full dress. Reason dictates that in every day usage variations must have crept in, born out of practicality, comfort, and necessity. Because of the remoteness of many posts and a lack of standardization as we know it today, regulations were frequently subjected to differing interpretations and local usages a fact substantiated by the conflicting details handed down to us by the artists of the time.

Lt. Col. John H. Magruder, III

⁸ Major E. N. McClellan, *Uniforms of the American Marines*, Washington, 1932, 69-70.

⁹ III, *Ibid.*, 66-67.

¹⁰ Ltr from Lts. Edelin, Desha, *et al* to CMC of May 1820, A&I Misc Ltrs, National Archives.

¹¹ MC Orders, National Archives.

CAPTAIN CRAWFORD'S BATTALION OF APACHE SCOUTS, 1885-1886

(Plate No. 131)

The battalion of Apache Scouts commanded by Captain Emmett Crawford, Third Cavalry, was one of two such units organized by Brigadier General George Crook in the fall of 1885 in an attempt to return a large group of Chiricahua and Warm Spring Apaches led by Geronimo to the reservation from which they had escaped the previous May. Three expeditions of regulars dispatched during the summer had proved futile. Geronimo, operating out of the barren Sierra Madre Range in Mexico, successfully eluded the troops and extended a reign of murder and pillage through Arizona and New Mexico and across the Border into the Mexican states of Chihuahua and Sonora. Fruitless marches through high mountains and deep canyons studded with sharp rocks left broken-down horses and ragged, worn out soldiers. As a last resort, therefore, Crook, the Department Commander, had decided to employ

Indians to catch Indians. Captain Wirt Davis, Fourth Cavalry, and Captain Crawford were ordered each to form a battalion of Indian Scouts and bring Geronimo to bay.¹

Captain Crawford was an old hand with the Indians. Since the close of the Civil War he had served almost continuously on the frontier and possessed a thorough knowledge of the Apache character.

With the exception of his officers, no soldiers were taken. Two companies of fifty Apache scouts each were enlisted at Fort Apache for a period of six months and placed under First Lieutenant M.

¹ This account is based upon two principal sources: Lieutenant W. E. Shipp, "Captain Crawford's Last Expedition," *Journal of the U. S. Cavalry Association*, v(1892) 343-361; *Personal Recollections & Observations of Gen. Nelson A. Miles*, New York, 1897, Chapter XXXVI, "A Campaign Against the Apaches (Captain Maus' Narrative)," 450-471.

P. Maus, First Infantry, and Second Lieutenant W. E. Shipp, Tenth Cavalry. One hundred White Mountain and Chiricahua Apaches were carefully chosen because they were mountain Indians familiar with the haunts of the hostiles, or "broncos." Surprise being absolutely necessary, other tribes and soldiers were excluded as lacking the skill and endurance required to outwit Geronimo's vigilant Chiricahuas.

Despite considerable pessimism over the fact that no troops were to accompany the Apaches, Crawford found no dearth of volunteers. In addition to Lieutenants Maus and Shipp, he finally selected Second Lieutenant S. L. Faison, First Infantry, as adjutant, quartermaster, and commissary officer, Dr. T. B. Davis, USA, surgeon, and two white chiefs of scouts to assist the officers.

An account of the expedition left by Lieutenant Shipp describes Crawford's Apache Scouts in considerable detail. Such names as Cooney, Cuso, Dutchy, Wassil, Kat-e-kahn, Chi-kiz-in, Nah-wah-zhe-tah, Good-e-na-ha, Loco, and Josh appeared on the muster rolls. Cooney and Cuso were "short, big-chested men with almost unlimited powers of endurance; in their savage way they were honest and loyal as men could be and were splendid scouts. Dutchy was a known murderer; brutal and mean, but in many ways a valuable scout."

Shipp tells of Crawford's treatment of Dutchy to illustrate his handling of the Indians. Dutchy had mutinied the previous summer and had been sent to Fort Bowie in irons. "Although he was undoubtedly guilty, Captain Crawford took him again as a scout but refused to give him the chevrons he demanded. He, however, selected him as his body servant, and trusted implicitly this man who had not long before threatened his life. The result was the establishment of a complete ascendancy over Dutchy, and increased respect on the part of the others, as they saw how little he feared this dangerous man."

Nah-wah-zhe-tah, or "Nosey", was a "great medicine man—which means that he was doctor, preacher, conjurer, and prophet all in one. Dressed in an old alpaca coat, ornamented with a pair of shoulder straps, and a pair of cavalry officer's trousers, much too long for his short legs, his first appearance was hardly in keeping with his solemn character and functions. Though undoubtedly a humbug, yet his influence was exercised for good, and rendered the task of governing the wild scouts much easier."

A Chiricahua, Noche by name, was sergeant major and performed the duties of leading guide and scout. This Indian had the unqualified admiration of his officers.

No attempt was made to give the Apaches the appearance of regulars. The soldier's blouse, cotton drawers, a waist cloth, (or breech clout), moccasins, and a red head band completed their normal uniform.² Beneath their blouse, they wore a collarless shirt of the type designed for a detachable collar. These may have been Army issue or of the "trade goods" variety. The former were white, while the latter might be plain or enhanced by colored poker dots or stripes. When approaching hostiles, the blouses were frequently turned inside out so that the grey linings might serve as camouflage; in action the blouse was apt to be discarded altogether. "Nosey" carried a sacred buckskin over his shoulder and prior to making contact with the hostiles a medicine dance was held at which the Indians kneeled before the buckskin, kissing it as their arms were blessed.

On 11 November 1885, the battalion left Fort Apache for Fort Bowie, where it was inspected by Generals Sheridan and Crook. The command then headed south into Mexico by way of the Dragoon Mountains. The Apaches were ideal for accomplishing Crawford's mission. Their knowledge of the country was coupled with acute powers of observation and deduction. Although small in stature, they possessed remarkable endurance and an innate ability to take care of themselves under all circumstances. In the words of Shipp, "they made us feel like babies when it came to mountain work. . . . No wonder our soldiers could not catch people like these."

On the march the Indians thoroughly understood their duties. The officers exercised a general supervision over their work, but no attempt was made to interfere. It appears that the officers and scouts could understand one another for ordinary purposes. In important talks, however, one of the white chiefs of scouts, Horn, interpreted from English to Spanish; an old Mexican named Concepcion who had once been held captive by Apaches, translated from Spanish to Apache.

Because the Indians tended to eat all their rations at once if issued in advance, the principal duty of the two white scouts was to supervise the

² The moccasins shown in the plate have upturned, pointed toes which F. Remington includes in all his illustrations of Apaches. Likewise, the red headband was a characteristic of the Apache.

daily issuance of rations. In making camp, the Apaches cooked their own food and established whatever security precautions were necessary without any direction from the officers. Each morning they would be ready to start before sunrise and, if circumstances permitted, they would scatter on foot in hunting parties, followed by the officers afoot or mounted on mules.

Three pack trains of forty-five mules each under Daly, Hayes, and Rover supported the expedition. The aparejo was the pack saddle employed, permitting a load of approximately 250 pounds per animal. "Each train was complete in itself, with its "boss packer," its cargador (the man who arranged the loads and kept everything in repair), its

blacksmith, its cooks, and its bell horse. Seven other men belonged to a train, but no matter what a man's position was—boss or cook—he was expected to help pack.

The tragic fate of brave Crawford who died 18 January 1886 of wounds received in an attack by a band of Mexicans, and the termination of the expedition under Lieutenant Maus who assumed command of the battalion are well documented. All together, they marched over one thousand miles in their effort to return Geronimo to the jurisdiction of Federal authority.

Edwin S. Lewis
Lt. Col. John H. Magruder, III

1st U. S. DRAGOONS, 1858-1861

(Plate No. 132)

About the First Dragoons (now the 1st and 100th Tank Battalions) at this period the regimental historian has this to say:

The headquarters of the regiment were established at Fort Tejon, California, in December, 1856, with Companies H and I. At this time Companies B, D, G and K were at Camp Moore, N. M.; C at Fort Yamhill, Oregon; E at Fort Walla Walla, Wash.; F at San Diego, Cal.; and A en route to Benicia Barracks, California.

From this time until the year 1861 scoutings and skirmishes with the Indians were almost incessant, and portions of the regiment were always found where the fighting was going on. Four companies were present with Chandler's expedition against the Navajos and Apaches in March and April, 1856. In 1856 two companies took part in numerous Indian skirmishes in Oregon and Washington; one was with Wright's expedition to the Walla Walla country in April, and to the Yakima country in June; later in the year it was out with Colonel Steptoe.

In May, 1858, Companies C, E and H formed part of Steptoe's expedition northward to the British line which, on the 17th of May, met a force of about 800 Spokane and other hostile Indians and was driven back.

In August of the same year Companies C, E, H and I were with Wright's column, which administered a severe thrashing, September 1, to the Indians who had fought Steptoe. Company D was in the field in Arizona in 1858, and E in Oregon in 1859.¹

The uniform of the Regiment, as it campaigned up and down the Pacific Coast and throughout the Southwest, has, to the best of our knowledge, nowhere been recorded. Doubtless, in the field the

Dragoons often wore red or blue flannel shirts, broad brimmed hats, or even the fringed clothing of the frontier. Here they are shown in the regulation uniforms of garrison and parade.

Except for the orange color of their lace and one detail of their insignia, the men wear the same uniform as the regiments of Cavalry.² Trousers had been changed from sky blue to dark blue by General Orders No. 3 of 24 March 1858.

The men are shown carrying Burnside breech-loading percussion carbines. The government purchased some of these weapons as early as 1856, although the model shown here could not have been carried before 1860.³ In common with the other mounted regiments, the First Dragoons carried a number of different models of carbine during the late 1850's.

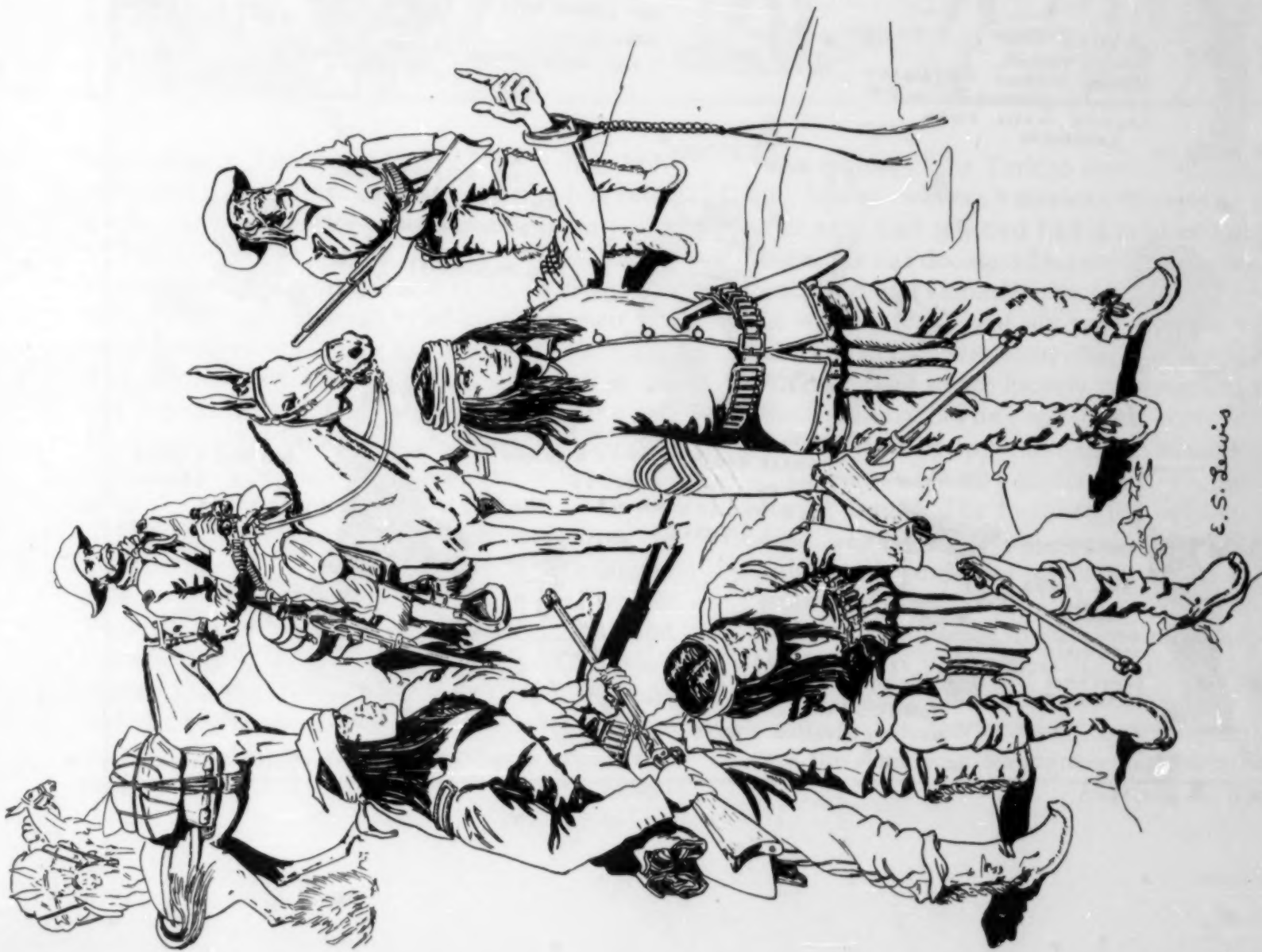
Belts are of black leather of the model of 1855. The corporal on the left has thrown his carbine back over his shoulder to prevent it banging against his leg as he walks. The advent of belt holsters shows we are near the Civil War, for that useful piece of equipment did not come into general use until the 1860's.

H. Charles McBarron, Jr.
Tom Parker

¹ Theo. F. Rodenbough, *The Army of the United States*, New York, 1896, 159.

² Frederick P. Todd, "2nd U.S. Cavalry, 1855-1861," Plate No. 87, *MC&H*, VI, 44-45.

³ Arcadi Gluckman, *United States Muskets, Rifles and Carbines*, Buffalo, 1948, 371-375.



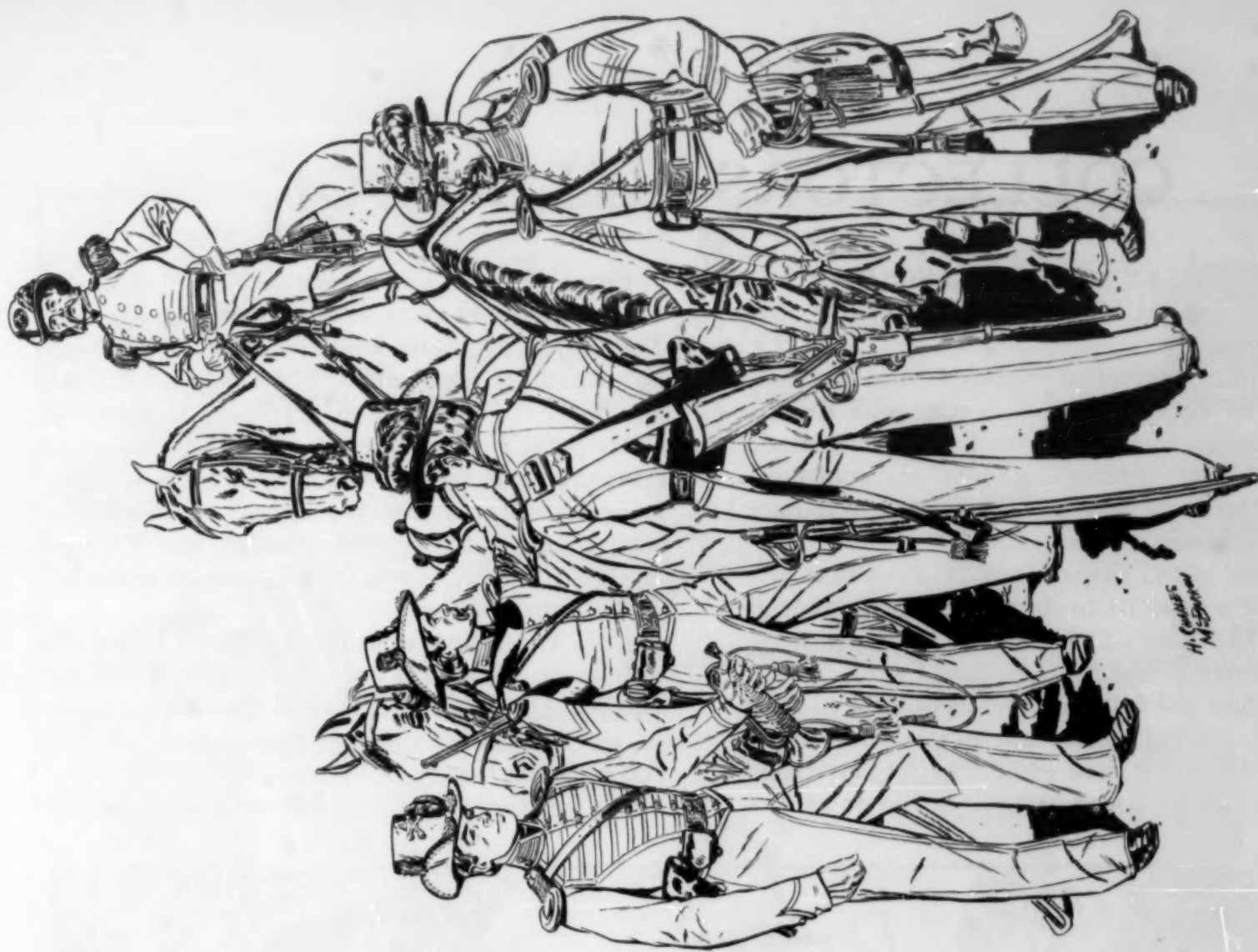
Apache Scouts

Company Officer

Sergeant Major of Scouts

White Scout

Captain Crawford's Battalion of Apache Scouts, 1885-6



Musician

Corporal

Dragon

Field Officer

Sergeant Major

1st U. S. Dragoons, 1858-1861

COLLECTORS FIELD BOOK

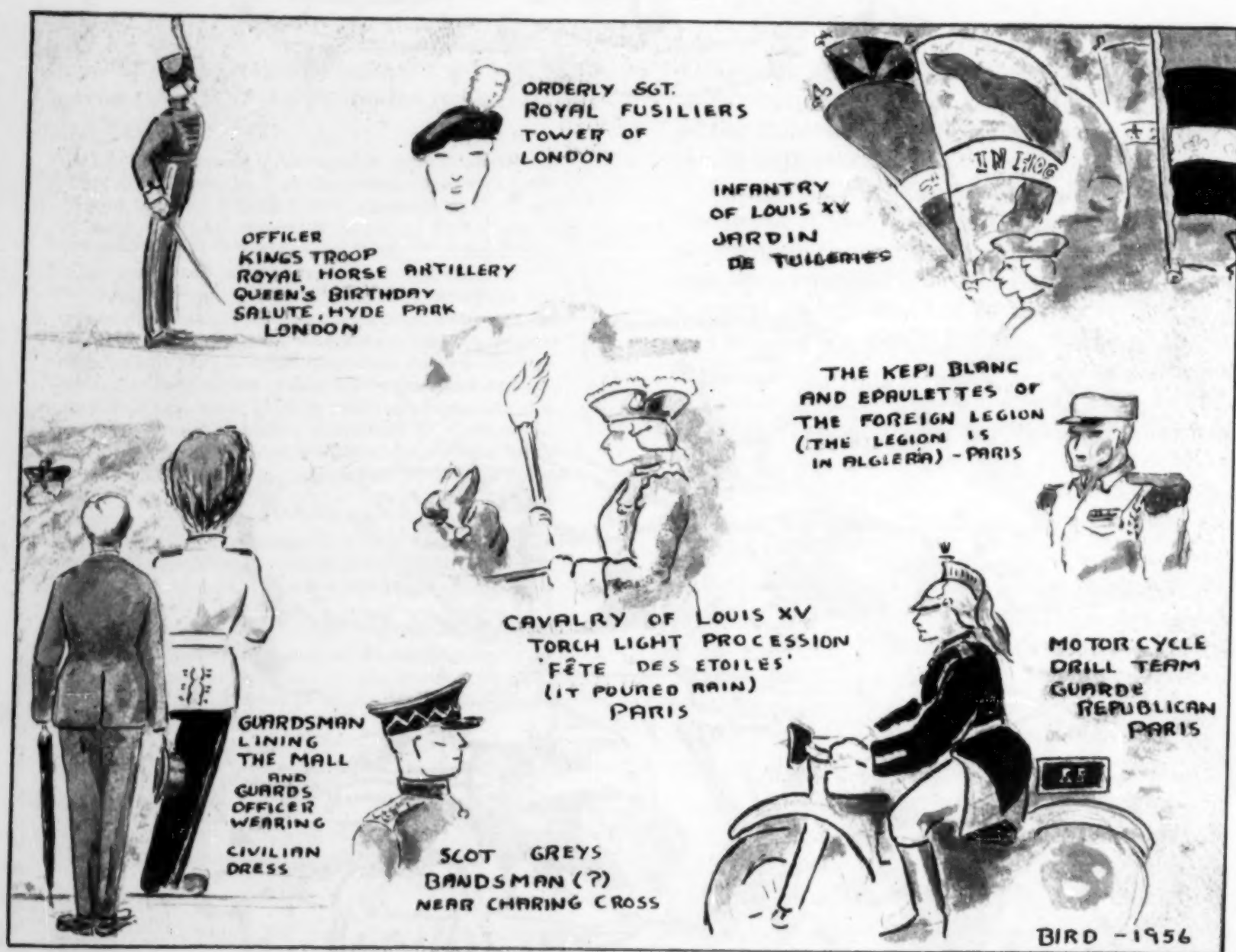
SOLDIERS' UNIFORMS IN SIX COUNTRIES—1956

Last summer I travelled overland from London, England to Turkey's eastern border with Russia. I saw a great many uniformed soldiers! I made these notes and sketches from memory; somehow, it did not seem polite to ask for poses or to inquire too closely about details of uniform.

England. All regiments are proving that you can't keep a good tradition down. The Brigade of Guards, The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, most regimental bands—including Cavalry—are back in their old splendor. Berets are apt to have feathered plumes. There are quite a few dress blues and colored field service caps. Territorial regiments are prettying up their battle dress.

France. One is constantly reminded that the French Army is away in Algiers fighting a war. The Garde Republicaine now does the dressing up: it parades the Army of Louis XV, horse, foot and flags, as France's finest tradition. Regimental collar patches now are worn on the upper arm of American-cut World War II battle dress. Paratroopers in baggy (Zouave?) pants and cherry or blue berets are the elite, though the Foreign Legionnaires are the darling "mauvais garcons" of the French.

Italy. From here east it was difficult to see the difference—if there is one—between soldiers and customs guards, trainmen, and the various kinds of police. The distinctive shaped and colored collar patches carry on regimental histories, and the Alpini and Bersaglieri still show off their dis-





tinctive hats. The visored cap of the Italian Military looks ridiculously small on a head of thick curly hair. It was American khaki in Italy.

Yugoslavia. The officers were looking obliquely toward Russia for a uniform style. In Belgrade, officers carried uniform brief cases in their left hand; they were saluting like mad with the right. The peasant-boy soldiery found tradition in the old Serbian Army. Their jack boots, and the soft Russian-leather boots of the officers, needed polishing. Someone should sell flat-irons to the Yugoslave Army. The hat badge is a red star.

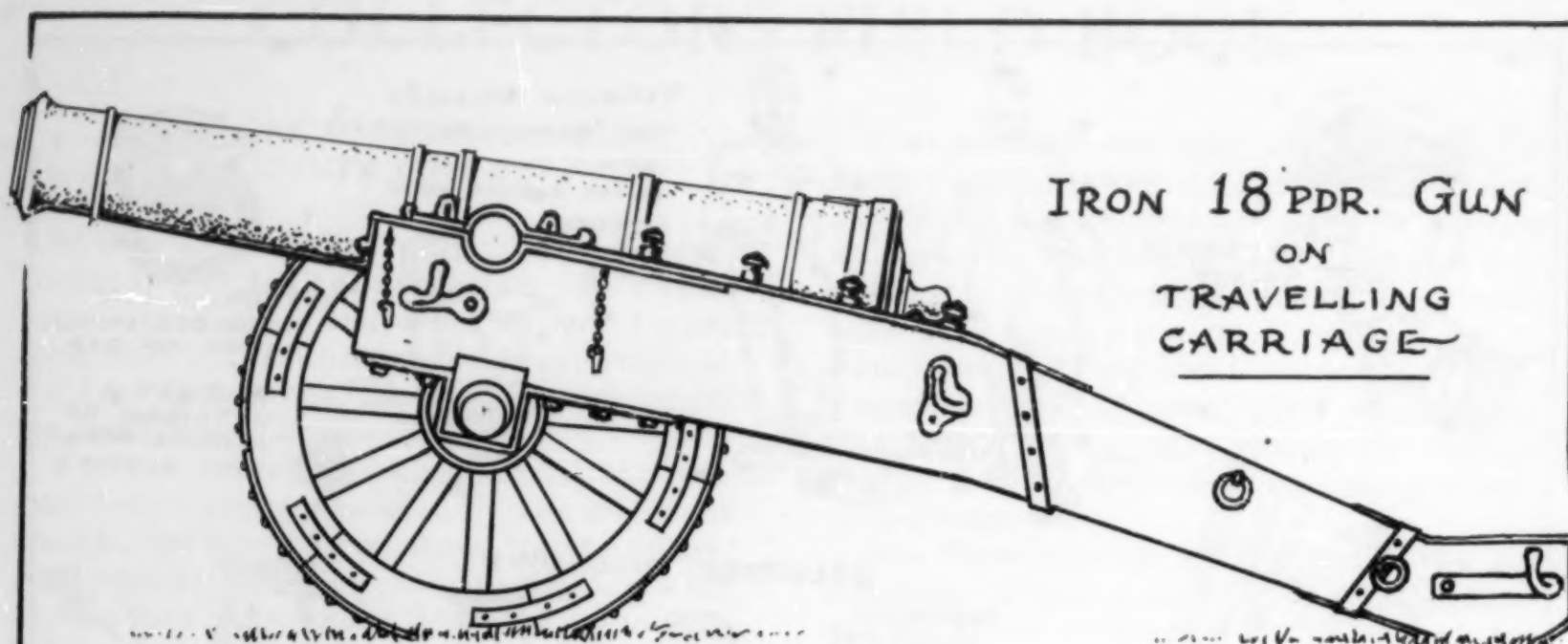
Turkey. Flat-irons would sell well, too, in Turkey, though the material of their British fatigue dress uniform stubbornly resists a formal crease. Turkish field service caps are distinctive, and when a soldier is assigned, have colored felt discs denoting arm of service. M. P.'s wear British-style battle bowlers painted white, and supplement the town police. Turkish officers are smart; their khaki uniforms combine English and Amer-

ican features. The Turkish soldier who has served in Korea wears American fatigues, pressed, cleaned, and tailored like a soldier among soldiers. He has decorated his uniform with his U. N. and Division shoulder patches, and at his throat he wears a turkey-red silk scarf with the white star and crescent. It was somewhat disconcerting to an Anglo-Saxon to see fiercely moustached soldiers, their military bearing absolutely correct, walking together two by two and hand in hand.

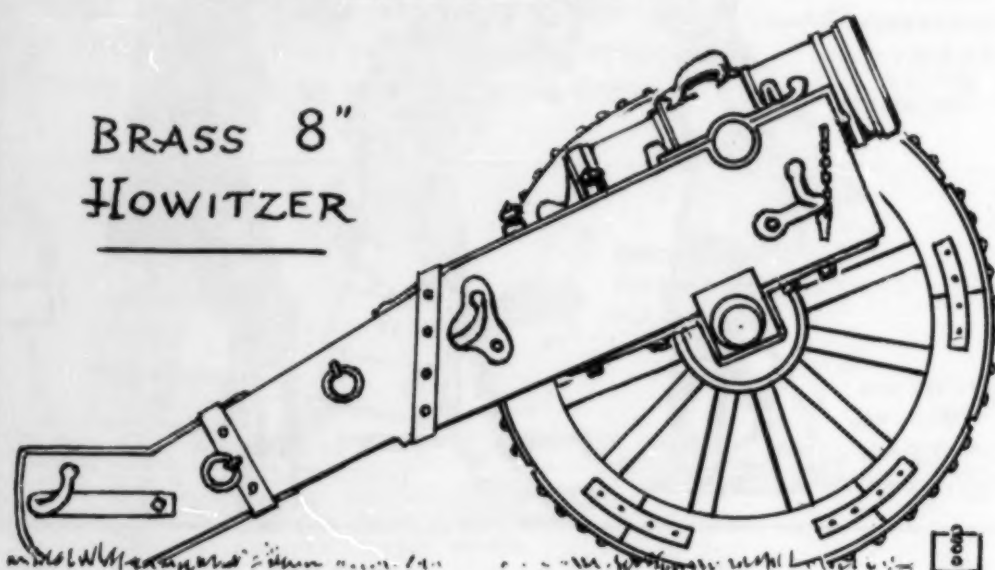
Greece. A country under a Crown, and with a Royal Guard. The Evzones for week-day guard duty wear khaki "rifle shirts" with their white tights and pom-pom slippers; on Sunday they wear traditional full dress. I did not see the Cretan Guard. The Greek Army patterns itself on the British (Cyprus notwithstanding), though the berets appear diminutive in comparison.

Oh, yes! In every country save Yugoslavia, one sees the American Sergeant—God bless him!

Harrison K. Bird, Jr.



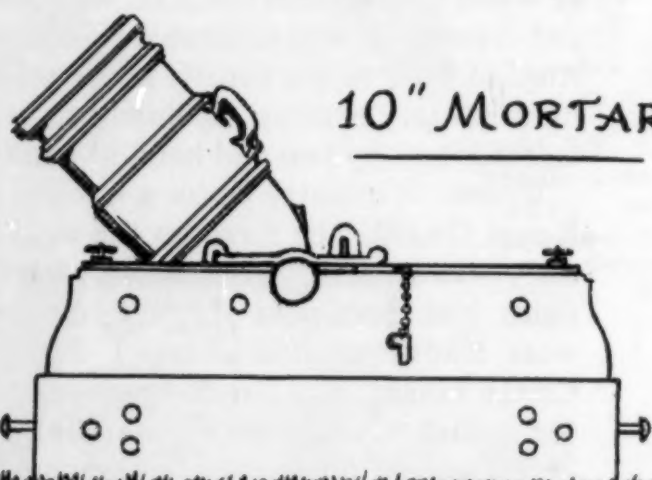
IRON 18 PDR. GUN
ON
TRAVELLING
CARRIAGE



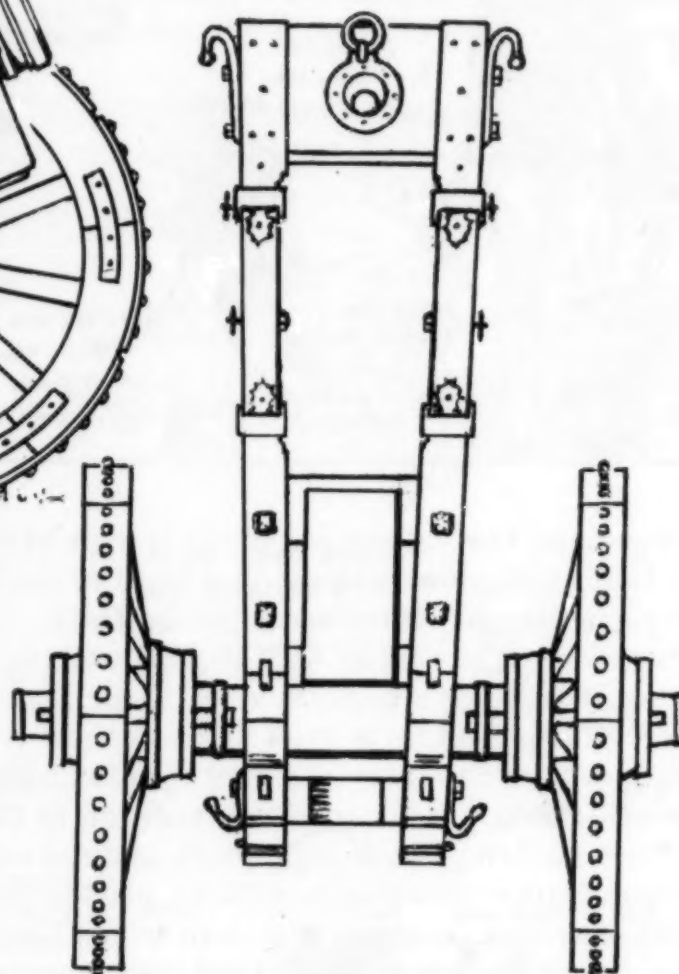
BRASS 8"
HOWITZER

AND CARRIAGE

ROUGHLY SCALED
40"



10" MORTAR



BRITISH
SEIGE ARTILLERY

1775 - 1783

* FROM MULLER & NATL PARK SERVICE

Rm

CORRECTION: ARTILLERY OF SEIGE DIMENSIONS PLATE (MC&H, VIII, 63)

This illustration in Jac Weller's informative article, "The Artillery of the American Revolution," is the result of faulty research by its artist and is therefore republished here in a revised state. To prevent reference to the earlier plate we urge that a suitable notation be made upon it referring to the existence of this correction. My apologies to the membership for the unhappy use made of a precious page but more particularly to those who may have been influenced by misconceptions in the original plate.

Robert L. Miller

9TH PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENT HAWKINS ZOUAVES

Several queries have been received concerning inconsistencies between Plate No. 122 (Hawkins' Zouaves) and the plate description. The article in the JOURNAL described the Zouaves as wearing a magenta colored woolen sash and a red fez, while the colored plate showed them with a bright blue sash and magenta fez. The following comments by our former Editor-in-Chief are included here for the information of COMPANY members:

It is easy to appreciate the confusion, since those of us who worked on the picture were far from clear ourselves. There is no lack of documentation on the dress of the Regiment. Its uniform is described in whole or in part in six contemporary accounts as well as in Graham's history, published in 1900. I have three photographs and twelve contemporary pictures of its officers and men, two in color, and doubtless more exist. Ogden and other later artists often have pictured the uniform. Yet this very wealth of material is the source of our troubles.

Despite the fact that both contemporary colored pictures (and all later reconstructions) show scarlet trimmings and fezzes, enough of the newspaper accounts of 1861 speak of "magenta" to make me certain that this was the color of the trimmings at least. The fez is described by reporters both as being both "blue" and "red," but nowhere is the color of the fez and of the trimmings contrasted. It seemed to me best to preserve the magenta shade in the fez as well as the rest of the uniform, despite the fact it is nowhere called magenta.

Graham, writing long after the war, appears to describe the sash as being magenta. An artist working in 1861 seems to show a scarlet sash. Both of these sources are vague and I should not have quoted Graham so unreservedly in the text. But two newspapers in 1861 are quite clear: The *New York Evening Express* on 20 May says that T. Menzesheimer & Son had just delivered the dress uniform with "a blue merino sash," and on 6 June the *New York Herald* commented that "a sash of turquoise blue" was "quite an improvement on the red colored one so much in vogue."

Long experience in this kind of research suggests the real reasons for the confusion. It is unlikely that the companies of the 9th New York were uniformed con-

sistently, even in the beginning. As time went on and clothing wore out, the men took what substitutes they could get, although they probably tried to hold on to their old colors as long as they could. I am quite certain they wore zouave clothing to the end of their enlistment. But one can imagine my concern when, only a few weeks ago, and after the plate had been published, the West Point Museum received one of those elaborately designed and colored discharge certificates put out by the better outfits which shows the men of the 9th New York in scarlet zouave trousers instead of the dark blue ones I had always felt was the regimental trademark.

Frederick P. Todd



CHRISTMAS CARDS

Most of us are well aware of the fact that a military Christmas card is a rare item on the American scene. This lack is emphasized each holiday season by the appearance of beautifully designed and executed cards of a military nature which some of us are fortunate enough to receive from friends overseas. Fortunately, the flow is not all one-sided; as might be expected, several COMPANY members have taken steps to improve the situation.

Some of these cards, like the 1956 works from the drawing boards of Members Larter and Magruder, form a valuable addition to a collection of material on American uniforms. We have reproduced them here to show others what can be done and to give a wider audience a chance to see them. Colonel Larter's depicts in black and white the dress of soldiers of his own arm, the Artillery, while Colonel Magruder's shows in color Marines of 1840 in festive mood.

Major Charles West

CAPTAIN OF ARTILLERY OF THE LEGION
1794LIEUTENANT OF THE REGIMENT OF LIGHT ARTILLERY
1808SERGEANT-MAJOR, 1st U. S. ARTILLERY REGIMENT
1838TRUMPETER OF LIGHT ARTILLERY
1858

THREE COMPARTMENT TIN CANTEEN

The canteen illustrated came into my possession a short time ago with very little information as to its origin. It has three compartments, the lower part for rations and the two upper compartments for liquid. The caps are slightly off center to allow for the shoulder sling. Each cap is marked "Patent April 22, 1861." The canteen is painted a medium blue with black lettering and decoration. Unfortunately, most of the decoration has been worn off and, with the exception of "Conn. Volunteers," the lettering is unreadable.

In my file of Civil War letters I came across a

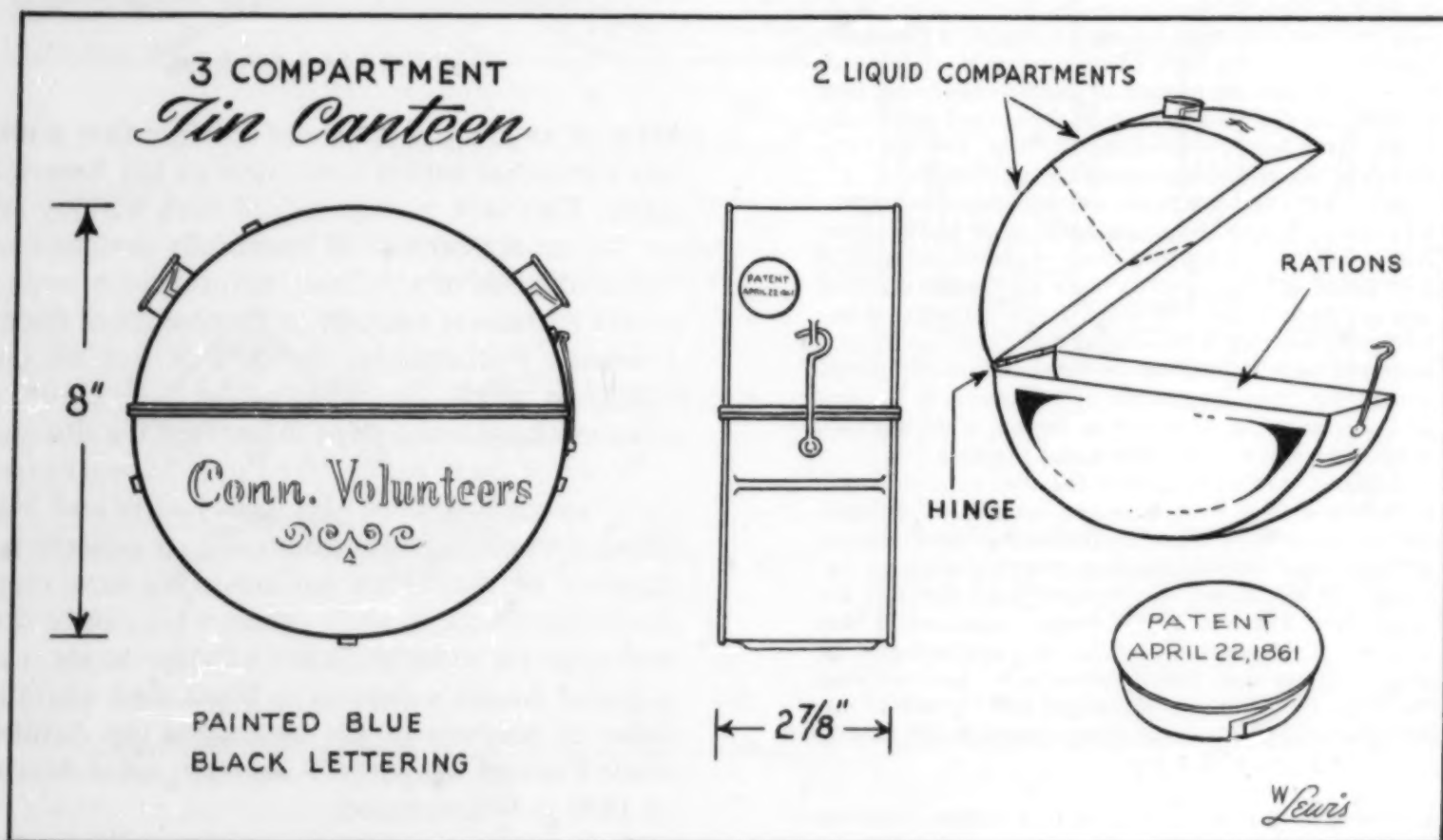
letter from a soldier of Company A, 1st Connecticut Volunteers, reading in part as follows:

Near Falls Church, Va., June 18/61

... and were given new equipment—knapsacks, canteens and haversacks. I much prefer the canteens we had as they were ample for our needs, food, water and tea. Regulations, they say.

It is possible from the above letter that the canteen was of the three compartment type as much of the non-regulation equipment of the three-months soldiers was furnished by public subscription of the towns they came from, and much of the patented equipment was made to sell—not to use.

Waverly P. Lewis



GAZETTE

Since the Fall issue of 1952 we have grown so used to having Colonel Frederick P. Todd as Editor-in-Chief of THE COMPANY that it has become rather difficult to imagine the publication of this journal without his guiding hand at the helm. It is certainly no exaggeration to say that its success has been the direct result of Colonel Todd's tireless efforts. His own wide knowledge of military history, from which he has contributed unsparingly, plus his ability to attract important material from other students in our field have established for the MC&H an authoritative character which will prove increasingly useful to military historians as time progresses. In his work he has had, of course, the dedicated service of those equally unselfish individuals making up the editorial staff; but from their close contact with the problems of producing the journal, these hard working assistants would be the first to recognize the many facets of Colonel Todd's extraordinary contribution. Despite the vicissitudes of contributors, the harrassment of deadlines, and the demands of his other important duties, he has succeeded in producing a well rounded, scholarly work in which the entire COMPANY can take pride.

It must have come as a severe loss to every member to learn that with the Winter issue of the MC&H, Colonel Todd reluctantly retired from his position as Editor-in-Chief. The growing responsibilities of his work at West Point, in addition to his desire to devote more time to other important works in his field, forced him to submit his resignation to the Board of Governors at their semi-annual meeting last Fall. Our very best wishes, together with our sincere appreciation, go to Colonel Todd. We are happy to know that with more time to devote to personal projects, he will be producing valuable sequels to the important works he has contributed already to the field of military history. In these tasks we wish him the success which he so richly deserves.

No one is more acutely aware of the great responsibility now facing us than this writer, who, commencing with this issue, will attempt to maintain the high standards set by his predecessor. For one thing we can be grateful: Colonel Todd will continue to be available as a Consulting Editor. Thus his talents and great capacity for work will not be lost.

In acknowledging his generous offer to be of continued service, however, we have an obligation to Colonel Todd—one which extends to all members who donate their services in the publication of this journal. Now that THE COMPANY has attained its statutory size of 600 members and the rolls have been closed except as vacancies occur, it is incumbent upon everyone now enjoying the privileges of membership to take a more active part in COMPANY affairs. We pay our dues as *members* of THE COMPANY, not simply as subscribers to the MC&H and the Military Uniforms in America plates. Each of us has a vested interest in these publications. We are all potential contributors; yet too few actually exercise this prerogative.

One of the principal aims of THE COMPANY is the exchange and dissemination of information pertaining to military history in America. At present too many members are adopting a passive attitude, content to take it for granted that the Todds *et al* will manage to produce. It cannot be stressed too much that all the work done on the MC&H is performed by members who are voluntarily devoting their spare time to their COMPANY jobs. It behooves us all, therefore, to lighten the load now being caried by the very few. The membership as a whole must maintain the flow of material. We have relied for too long solely upon the efforts of men such as Frederick P. Todd; it is now time that each of us put his own weight to the oars to make this truly a community effort.

Lt. Col. John H. Magruder, III

* * *

There was only one complaint as a result of the change in procedure in mailing THE COMPANY plates in tubes rather than in flat packages. There were on the other hand, a half dozen written notes of praise. Items such as our plates are always subject to damage and loss both in the mails and at the point of delivery. THE COMPANY cannot be responsible for the plates after they are double-checked into the mails by the dozen-or-so New York area members who gather quarterly to collate, pack, check, and ship them; the society's responsibility necessarily must end at the shipping point. Members should insure that proper facilities exist at the address end to receive and safeguard the plates until they can get into proper hands. We strongly recommend the following in reference to

the mailing of COMPANY publications: that members living in apartment houses arrange for postmen to make deliveries directly to apartment doors; that each member give as his mailing address the better of his two addresses, home or business; that members in government service or business abroad use stateside addresses.

* * *

The new look on the title page of this issue of the *MC&H* is the work of Member-artist Dirk Gringhuis of East Lansing, Michigan. The Governors at their meeting in November, acting on the recommendation of our art editor, selected the Gringhuis layout as that which most closely met their criteria for a simple and appropriate heading. Dirk, who is a relatively new member himself, is to be congratulated for his interest and follow-through in a COMPANY project.

* * *

Some members have expressed a hesitancy to contribute material on the basis that what they have to offer is in all probability already well known to those whom they deem to call "the more erudite members of THE COMPANY." Such reluctance is not at all consistent with our purpose. The combined interests of our total membership are extremely varied, including persons thoroughly versed in a wide minutiae of detail, but this does not preclude the publication of material already known to the so-called "experts." One objective of the *MC&H* is to provide a coordinated source of indexed reference material on American militaria covering as broad a scope as possible. For example, the insignia specialist may be familiar with even the most obscure source material in his field, but our purposes should not be to publish only insignia material that is new to him. Many original sources are difficult for the average student to obtain and much information is widely scattered. The criterion, therefore, is not a question of whether material is new *per se*. Our ultimate task is to collate and centralize between the covers of our journal all worthwhile information, published and unpublished, relating to our field.

* * *

We are pleased to announce that some copies of a limited edition of four color plates of West Point Cadets drawn by Colonel Harry Larter are avail-

able. The plates were specially printed for binding in the 300 copies of the Thirty Year Book of his USMA class of 1925. They include: Cadet First Sergeant, 1825; Cadet Lieutenant, 1855; Cadet Captain, 1925; and a USAF Academy Cadet, 1955. They are single figures about 9" high on heavy paper measuring 7" by 10" printed in six colors by the offset method. Approximately 50 sets remain which were not bound in the yearbooks and they are available *only* in sets by sending \$5.00 to the Treasurer, USMA Class of 1925, who is currently Major General Harry Crandall, Chief of Finance, U. S. Army, Building T-7, Washington 25, D. C. In your order, we suggest that you identify yourself as a member of THE COMPANY.



Rudolph May Kauffmann
Captain H. N. Perham, USCG (Ret.)
Theodore B. Pitman

* * *

KEEPING TRADITION ALIVE

Early 1957 witnessed the saving of one tradition and the wise perpetuation of another. Saved was the horse-drawn caisson and caparisoned horse used in some military funerals in Arlington National Cemetery. Perpetuated were the unit designations of 162 combat regiments, which combine the greatest age and the most battle honors.

The Secretary of the Army, as an economy measure, decided to abolish the horse-drawn caisson and caparisoned horse and replace the caisson with an ordinary automobile hearse. The hue and cry was immediately raised in all quarters. Typical of the comments, but carrying the most weight by far, was that of Chairman Vinson of the House Armed Services Committee who wrote the Secretary that, "the disposal of the horses would remove the last vestige of a great tradition of the United States which goes back 92 years."

The Secretary replied that "prompted by widespread expressions of regret" he was canceling the order. He further wrote the Chairman, "I believe that the economy effected by the changes, while desirable, is outweighed by the intangible values which are involved in continuing a tradition of a horse-drawn caisson in funeral services honoring our hero dead at Arlington." We must here insert the hope that this overdue recognition that *esprit de corps* bears no price tag will long serve as a guiding principle in these matters, not only for the Army but for all the Armed services.

This controversy involved 17 horses. Sixteen are perfectly matched grays used for the six-horse teams, to mount the sergeant in charge, and for spares. The other is a black, the caparisoned horse. This horse with black saddle cloth, boots reversed in the stirrups, and the deceased's sword hung with black crepe and suspended from the cantle, is led by a soldier in the funerals of generals and cavalry officers. In this connection, one newspaper noted that this riderless horse is a survival of the ancient custom of sacrificing a charger at the burial of a warrior.

While the last Army horses were being saved for ceremonial purposes, the last Army mules were giving way to a swifter more versatile combat carrier, the helicopter. The 4th Field Artillery at Fort Carson, Colorado, for many years equipped with mules and 75mm pack howitzers, has lost its mules and its "packs," and moved to Fort Sill, Oklahoma as the 4th Airphibious Field Artillery Firing Unit. At Sill it will be equipped with rocket launchers, howitzers, and helicopters.

From Fort Carson comes a first-hand account of the mule outfit's last parade by Member Major W. H. "Tommy" Tomlinson. As do many, Major Tomlinson deplors the passing of the storied Army mule, last vestige of the "mounted arm" as he writes with feeling and nostalgia about the final review. Standing in an honored place in the ceremony was "Hambone," the famous Army jumping mule, an old friend of many of us from his horse-show days at Army posts and on the show circuit. Cuts show the mounted color guard of the 4th and cannoneers packing the recoil mechanism of the 75mm howitzer on a mule in Rocky Mountain snows.



U. S. Army Photograph



U. S. Army Photograph

It appears that the Army finally may have solved the problem of maintaining traditional unit designations on the active list. A recent order affects 55 infantry regiments, 25 of cavalry and armor, 57 of field artillery, and 24 of coast artillery (now anti-aircraft). These have been placed on the "permanent rolls" and made "institutional units" whose colors will be carried and in whom tradition will be preserved regardless of the form of strength taken by the units.

These regiments will be institutional rather than tactical. Armor and artillery haven't been organized as regiments since before World War II. Now, in the new division organization, the infantry and cavalry regiment as a tactical unit is out. The division is composed of fighting battalions directly under the division commander. The regiment, like its British counterpart, will be a name—a traditional institution only. It will field a variable number of battalions depending upon the size of the Army at any one time. These may turn up in as many different divisions. A stated object of this plan is "to give the soldier of today a link with the past as well as a stake in the future."

Here are the Regular Army units which will be gradually included in the plan. The nine airborne infantry regiments are the 187th, 325th, 327th, and 501st through 506th; armored infantry regiments are the 6th, 36th, 41st, 46th, 48th, 50th, 51st, 52d, 54th, and 58th; infantry regiments are the 1st through 23d, 26th through 32d, 34th, 35th, 38th, 39th, 47th, 60th, and 87th; cavalry regiments are the 1st through 15th; armor regiments are the 32d through 35th, 37th, 40th, and 66th through 69th; field artillery regiments are the 1st through 22d, 25th through 42d, 73d, 75th through 84th, 92d,

319th, 320th, 321st, 333d, and 377th; anti-aircraft artillery regiments (old coast artillery) are the 1st through 7th, 43d, 44th, 51st, 52d, 55th, 56th, 57th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62d, 65th, 67th, 68th, 71st, 517th, and 562d. In addition, the 1st Special Forces Regiment, a guerilla and ranger type outfit has been redesignated 1st Special Service Force, a noted combat unit of World War II. Of these 162 regiments, the oldest is the 3d Infantry dating from 1784 and the youngest the 187th Airborne Infantry from 1943. The most battle honors are carried by the 1st Cavalry, the old 1st Dragoons, with 68, while most units have more than ten.

* * *

We have seen how the 1st Special Service Force designation will be perpetuated under the new Army plan. News comes of an outfit closely associated with the "Force" in World War II. The story graphically illustrates the lengths to which the Army sometimes goes to maintain traditional and meaningful unit designations as its strength fluctuates with the seriousness of the world situation. It also shows a pitfall implicit in any such program.

In 1942 the 99th Infantry Battalion was organized. It was composed of Norwegian-speaking Americans for possible service in the reconquest of Norway. In early 1945 the 474th Infantry was activated with remnants of the 1st Special Service Force forming the 1st and 2d battalions and the 99th joining in lieu of the 3d battalion. Battle honors of the two were perpetuated in the 474th. After the war the 474th was inactive until 1954 when it was redesignated 74th Infantry, with 474th battle honors, and activated. Again, in lieu of the 3d battalion, the 99th was activated.



U. S. Army Photograph

In 1956 when reduction in force necessitated deactivation of the 74th, regimental battle honors and the designation was maintained by shifting the 99th designation to a battalion used as a demonstration unit at the Army Aviation Center, Fort Rucker, Alabama.

The pitfall we referred to above was that the demonstration battalion was the 351st Infantry and it lost its number in favor of the 99th. The 351st, it will be recalled, possessed a fine combat record while with the 88th Division in both World Wars and after 1945 was our occupation force in Trieste under command of Member Major General (then Colonel) Paul W. Caraway. So we have the unhappy situation of one unit's traditions and battle honors being maintained at the expense of another equally worthy.

A final cut shows the colors retirement ceremony of the 351st with the commander casing the regimental color assisted by the two senior sergeants of the regiment.

Rowland P. Gill

Lt. Col. Brooke Nihart, USMC

PUBLICATIONS

Arms and Armor in Colonial America, 1526-1783, by Harold L. Peterson, Harrisburg, Pa., The Stackpole Company, 1956, 350 pages, illustrated, \$12.50.

This book, written by a Member of THE COMPANY, published by another Member, and sponsored by THE COMPANY itself, is almost as prominently a monument to the society as it is to its author. The help of some fifteen COMPANY Members is acknowledged in the Preface.

Willingness to use the advice and knowledge of others has given the book a breadth, soundness, and sparkle not always found in works on arms and armor. It has, furthermore, made it a volume worth the careful attention of the general historian as well as the arms collector. It is an admirable adjunct to the volumes by Herbert L. Osgood, Stanley M. Pargellis, and the others who have written on military affairs in Colonial America.

Nothing said above should detract from the

credit due the author. Writing both from an intimate knowledge of the weapons themselves, a consummate use of original documents, and years of rich experience, Member Peterson has produced a comprehensive, detailed, and balanced book. It commences with the earliest Spanish colonies in North America, carries the story through the period of the Indian wars, through the wars between France and England, ending with the American Revolution. It includes hand weapons and armor of all sorts, and covers both their use in battle and their physical characteristics.

Better to describe the merits and demerits of *Arms and Armor in Colonial America* let me select a single small segment, the coverage of the "Kentucky" or "Pennsylvania" rifle (pages 192-203). The author correctly lays the background of the weapon in Germany, clearly and most usefully points to the distinction in design between the rifles of the American Revolution and those of subsequent years, and then proceeds to place the

rifle in its proper tactical position vis-a-vis the musket. With excellent documentation he describes its greater accuracy in the hands of a skilled marksman but clearly demolishes the claim—still heard—that the rifle was “the gun that won the American Revolution.”

For better understanding this story one would like to have the illustrations of the rifles near at hand. Unfortunately, this is not the case. Peterson's description of the early rifle, for example, is on page 194, the vital photographs are on pages 173-174, and there is no reference in the text to plate numbers. This causes fumbling and loss of time. How different from the author's *The American Sword*, where the bookmaking in this respect is excellent.

There are, however, ample and well selected pictures, 318 in all. Many show weapons and armor being carried and worn. In common with so many books and magazines today, some photographs tend to be dull and fuzzy, while the black and white drawings stand out sharp and clear. Here neither the author nor the publisher may be at fault, for there is little that can be done with a poor half-tone. But it is a defect well worth noting by all of us.

THE COMPANY, all considered, can be proud to have been associated with so distinguished and useful a publication.

Frederick P. Todd

Sound of the Guns, by Fairfax Downey, New York, David McKay Company, 1956, 337 pages, illustrated, \$5.50.

No man who has ever served in the artillery can view Member Downey's new book with anything like objectivity, for here is the story of American artillery written by a former battery officer in an effortless style that succeeds in capturing the real spirit and feeling of the arm.

In his narrative, Colonel Downey skips rapidly over the very early use of artillery in America and begins his story in earnest with the first siege of Louisburg in 1745. After that success for American heavy ordnance, came the hard months at the beginning of the Revolution, the epic feat of hauling the Ticonderoga cannon to Boston, and the emergence of Henry Knox as an unrivalled chief of ordnance. The War of 1812 brought glory only in isolated instances, but with the Mexican War American artillery carved itself a niche in fame with the heroic efforts of the flying batteries when

artillery was “first in the field.” During the Civil War artillery came of age. The individual feats of daring of the earlier conflict were frequently repeated, but at times there was also over-all direction by competent chiefs of artillery, concentrations of fire, the beginnings of indirect firing, and the development of new tactics. Following the Civil War each succeeding war is treated in its turn: the Spanish-American War, the Boxer Rebellion, World War I, World War II, and Korea. Significant changes in materiel and tactics are noted: the passing of the artillery horse in a particularly fine chapter, the advent of smokeless powder, TOT, the guided missile, and others.

This is not a detailed study of all phases or indeed of any one phase of American artillery. It was not intended to be. Rather it is a selection of highlights which serve to brush in the framework of the whole picture and leave the reader with a vivid impression of these essentials. Details and minutiae have wisely been left for another type of book. Naturally, when the process of selection is involved, the question of the wisdom of the choices is bound to arise. In the opinion of this reviewer at least, Colonel Downey has done very well, and the emphases have been properly placed. In any work of this scope, minor errors are bound to creep in, and quibblers may point to a few misspelled names and such. These are utterly insignificant, however. The author set out to capture the spirit and tradition of the American artillery, and this he has done superbly.

Harold L. Peterson

Member John Bakeless has contributed a new and an outstanding volume to American military biography with *Background to Glory* (J. B. Lippincott Company, \$6.00), the life of George Rogers Clark. In this, the only full-scale adult biography of Clark in print, the author has combined a firm knowledge of the facts with a lively literary style that arouses the interest of even the casual reader.

Members Ray Riling and Colonel B. R. Lewis have collaborated to make available some scarce source material to students of American firearms. Member Riling has printed facsimile reproductions of five official Army and Navy manuals dealing with the model 1855 rifle musket, the model 1863 rifle musket, the model 1866 Springfield breech-loading rifle musket, the Remington model 1870 Navy rifle, and the model 1895 Navy rifle. Each

manual is reprinted in its entirety, and Colonel Lewis has contributed a brief statement of the history and significance of each gun. The prices for the booklets are, respectively, \$1.75, 1.00, 2.00, and 2.75 or \$8.50 for the entire group. It has been almost impossible for the student to obtain access to some of these manuals outside of Washington, and making them so readily available to all is a real service to everyone interested in martial arms.

* * *

A new and much improved edition of "Taffrail" Dorling's basic work *Ribbons and Medals* (George Philip & Son, 21s) has just been published. The size of the color section has been doubled and there are over 500 pictures of ribbons keyed to the text; hundreds of line cuts show the obverse of medals described. The Secretary of the Orders, Decorations and Medals Research Society of Great Britain, L. F. Guille, has worked with Captain Dorling on this edition, the first to appear since 1946.

While it is still primarily a reference work on British Empire and Commonwealth awards, the book includes substantial sections on those of other nations. COMPANY members with only a passing knowledge of current American regulations will be able to detect a number of minor errors in the text which unfortunately might easily have been avoided. Despite this fact the book still remains a worthwhile addition to the library of anyone who wants a single source which will provide most of the answers on decorations and medals.

* * *

Members who are fascinated by the interplay of social forces in military history will enjoy a new British book, aptly titled *Gallant Gentlemen* (Michael Joseph, 18s). The author, E. S. Turner, has applied his sprightly wit to a distillation of the vast literature of memoirs, histories, and official reports which provide a key to the character of the British officer. The result is an informal and usually affectionate portrait which covers three and a half centuries of military life.

* * *

Many members, we are sure, will be interested in a new series of Civil War prints. Sometimes called "The North, South Uniform Prints," this series appeared in the latter part of 1956. It is produced and copyrighted by Donald P. Dow, P. O. Box 1403, Fort Worth 1, Texas. The artist of all eight of the current series is Randy Steffen, who also writes a short descriptive text for each picture. The price

of the entire set is \$5.00. Individual groups of four Union or four Confederate prints may be purchased for \$3.00.

Mr. Steffen is a competent, imaginative, and sympathetic artist and his drawings would grace any collection. His figures are realistic, even to the use of distinctively personalized faces, a rare trick among uniform artists. He has been called, by Mr. Dow, a "documentary" artist, but regretfully he has not quite reached this rank, at least so far as his Civil War prints are concerned.

Mr. Steffen's uniforms and insignia are thoughtfully drawn but he could not have had originals or clear photographs before him when he did some of them. He does not use the characteristic wide coat sleeve of the Civil War period, his insignia are often too small or too large, and his boots and footwear are a nondescript assortment.

In his accouterments and weapons the artist finds himself on even shakier ground. One of his Confederates has an Enfield rifle (specifically described as "the English imported Enfield, caliber .577") which one would look in vain for in Fuller and Steuart's *Firearms of the Confederacy*. A Union soldier has a haversack that looks as if it came straight out of the Spanish American War, via Bannerman's. And so on.

A careful examination would disclose dozens of similar uncertainties. All this is the more unfortunate because today the membership of THE COMPANY contains men who could easily have corrected Mr. Steffen's errors from their own knowledge and collections. We can only hope that he will see fit to profit by this opportunity and be heartened by the knowledge that each picture by one of our own member-artists is scrutinized by a half dozen eagle eyes before it goes to press.

* * *

In the interval since the last issue of *MC&H* went to press two periodicals devoted to American arms have appeared, and COMPANY members have been responsible for both. In December the American Society of Arms Collectors issued the second number of its irregular *Bulletin*, and it was almost entirely a COMPANY production. The editor was Member Tom McHugh, and the articles were written by Members Tom Holt, Meade Patterson, and Sam Smith. As might be expected, it was scholarly and well produced. Late in January the first issue of *The American Arms Collector*, a new quarterly, came off the press. It is edited by Member Hugh Benet, Jr., assisted by Member William E. Codd,

and Members Ray Riling and Robert Wheeler are also on the staff. The first issue is exceptionally well designed and printed, and it is a pleasure to welcome this new periodical to the field. It will be a credit to all concerned.

* * *

Also in the arms field is "*45-70 Rifles*" by Jack Behn (The Stackpole Company, \$5.00). In this brief 138-page volume, the author presents a catalog of the various arms, both military and sporting, which were chambered for the standard .45-70 caliber government cartridge. There were a surprising number of these guns, and the author discusses them all, even touching on the pistol, Gatling and machine guns which are not indicated in the title.

The story begins with the acceptance of the Allin "trapdoor" alteration in 1865, although these guns were produced in a larger caliber, and carries the military rifles through 1898 when the single-shot .45-70 was superseded. The great variety of sporting rifles made for this caliber are treated separately. These persisted longer than the military arm, and indeed the last to be manufactured was the Winchester model 1886 which continued in production until 1935.

Because the book is so short and the variety of guns made for this cartridge is so great, the discussions of the various individual models are quite brief, and many of the details are omitted. This may disappoint the very advanced student, but there are few with this specialty, and the average collector and student will find much new and valuable information in convenient form with sufficient illustrations.

* * *

The final book for mention in this issue also deals with firearms: *Colt Automatic Pistols, 1896-1955* by Donald B. Bady (Fadco Publishing Company, \$7.50). Although the period covered is quite modern, there is considerable material in this volume of interest to military historians, for the greatest portion of the text is devoted to the various military models, beginning with the .38 and continuing through the .45. Much source material is included in the form of reports of government tests, correspondence with the Colt company, patent drawings, and other documents. More than 80 excellent illustrations together with thorough research in compiling the complete record of this one small segment of the firearms field make this a standard reference work.

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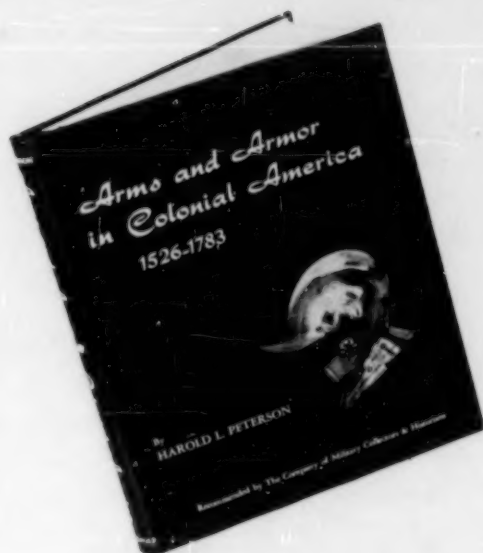
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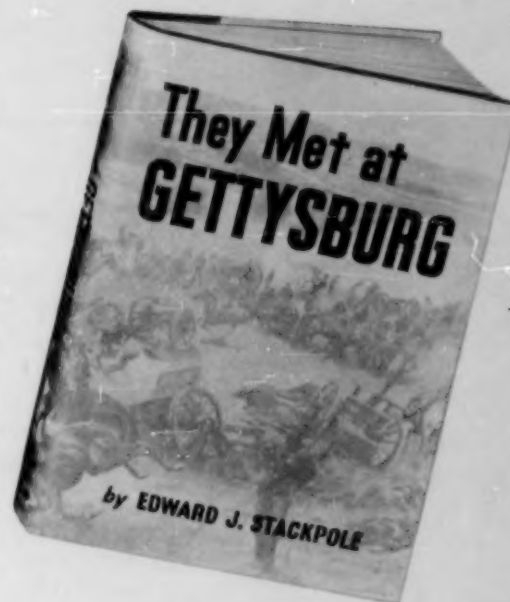
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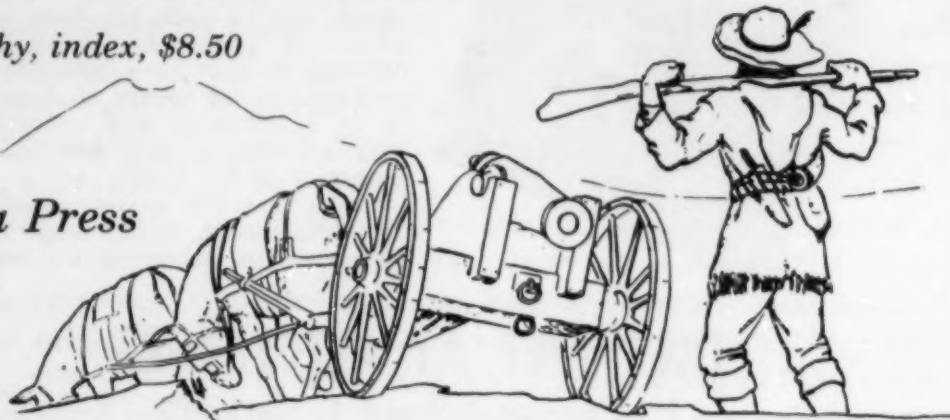
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